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TRAVELS

IN THE

OTTOMAN EMPIRE, EGYPT, AND PERSIA,

UNDERTAKEN BY ORDER OF

THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE,

DURING THE FIRST SIX YEARS OF THE REPUBLIC,

BY

G. A. OLIVIER,

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE, OF THE SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE, &c. &c.

Illustrated by Engravings,

CONSISTING OF

HUMAN FIGURES, ANIMALS, PLANTS, MAPS, PLANS, &c. &c.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED

A MAP OF GREECE, OF THE ARCHIPELAGO,

AND

OF A PART OF ASIA MINOR.

VOLUMES I. AND II.

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When the ſigns of pregnancy do not manifeſt themſelves a few months after marriage, the wife, in her impatience never fails to addreſs herſelf to matrons and to phyſicians, in order to aſk them for ſome beverage, ſome particular recipe that may facilitate and haſten the moment of conception. The former prepare peſſaries in which are contained the hotteſt and moſt irritating ſubſtances, ſuch as muſk, amber, bezoar, aloes, cardamom, ginger, pepper, cinnamon, cloves, &c. They at the ſame time cauſe moſt of theſe drugs to be taken as an opiate or mixed with aliments, at the riſk of producing ſome inflammation or ſome other diſorder more or leſs dangerous.

Unleſs the number of children be already conſiderable, or the fortune of the huſband be deranged, if the wife, ſtill young, after one or more lyings-in, find too great an interval before ſhe be pregnant, ſhe has recourſe to the ſame means, and ſhe employs the ſame drugs. The Greek women, beſides, leſs devout and more ſuperſtitious than the Muſſulman females, make offerings to the *Panayia* *, ſend a wax-taper to the church, cauſe maſſes to be ſaid, and invoke the male and female ſaints of paradiſe in whom they have moſt confidence.

The houſes of the Muſſulmans are diſpoſed in ſuch a manner that the lodging of the women is always ſeparated from that of the men: the former is called *harem*, or ſacred place, and the latter *ſelamlik*, or habitation of the man. At the houſes of the great, there are two piles of building which communicate with each other by intermediate apartments, of which the huſband alone has the keys. Acceſs to the harem is ſtrictly forbidden to men; the male ſervants and ſlaves never enter it; and the male relations themſelves are never admitted, except it be on the two grand feſtivals of the year, and on the occaſion of weddings, lyings-in, or circumciſion.

* Παναγια, *all holy*; thus it is that the Greeks call the mother of Chriſt.

Commonly

no other perfume than tobacco, dainties which they themſelves bring, and ſome fruits of the ſeaſon: this is to reſtore the body and gratify the ſenſes. Their vanity is flattered at diſplaying a fine ſhift, clean drawers, decent clothes, necklaces, chains, and other ornaments in ſequins. In ſhort, they no longer have any thing to wiſh for when they have undergone complete depilation, when their locks are arranged, their braids plaited, their eyelids and eyebrows painted black, and the nails of their hands and feet of an orange colour yellow.

of the day, they ſoar to a conſiderable height, hover for ſeveral hours together over the town, and at night come to take their ſhare of the carrion which they have perceived.

The kite, the great-eared owl, the long-eared owl, the ſcops owl, the common owl, the ſcreech owl, and the reddiſh owl make war on the rats and mice, which are extremely numerous in a city built of wood, where the inhabitants are very neglectful, and where cats are ſcarce and often dangerous, as they may tranſmit the plague from one houſe to another, in the ſeaſon of their loves.

As for the ordure, the inhabitants of CONSTANTINOPLE do not commonly give themſelves the trouble to have it removed, becauſe they depend in this reſpect on the rain. This reſource is almoſt always ſufficient in autumn, winter, and ſpring, becauſe the city affords every where a declivity ſufficiently great for the waters to waſh it away and carry it along with them; and when theſe means are not ſufficient, they throw it into the harbour; which forms, on ſeveral parts of the ſhore, conſiderable riſings.

was epidemical; but when ſome time has elapſed ſince it appeared in a country, it generally aſſumes a character of malignity, ſo much ſo that almoſt all the patients who are attacked by it, die at the expiration of two or three days, ſometimes of four or five. It announces itſelf by an oppreſſion of ſpirits, and a total loſs of ſtrength, vomiting, frequently a ſharp pain in the ſtomach, and a pain in the head more or leſs violent: the ſick perſon complains of an internal, inſupportable heat; he does not long preſerve his reaſon; he ſoon raves, and, by his geſtures and his words, he betrays the fright by which his mind is ſeized. The pulſe is hard, ſcarcely feveriſh; it afterwards becomes intermittent and irregular: the patient generally dies in convulſions before a bubo has ſhewn any ſign of ſuppuration, before it has been well able to make its appearance.

When the diſorder manifeſts itſelf with this degree of malignity, there can be no hope of recovery. The art of curing in theſe circumſtances is always of no avail; but one may combat it with advantage and obtain ſeveral cures, either in the decline of the contagion, or in the years when the plague proceeds with more ſlowneſs, and ſhews itſelf with ſymptoms leſs terrible: then the oppreſſion is leſs great; the vomiting does not announce itſelf with a pain in the ſtomach ſo acute, the pulſe is leſs concentered, and the fever more perceptible: the patient preſerves his reaſon for ſome time, or if he rave, it is only by intervals and in a manner leſs tumultuous. The bubo, in theſe caſes, makes its appearance on the firſt or ſecond day, and quickly tends to ſuppuration. This plague, which might be called *mild*, comparatively to the other, is, nevertheleſs, a diſorder alſo very dangerous, becauſe ſcarcely one third of the ſick recover their health.

When the bubo is in full ſuppuration, the fever inſenſibly diminiſhes, the appetite returns, and the patient by degrees recovers his ſtrength; but if, through any miſtake in his regimen, through any exceſs, or through any

cauſe

CHAPTER XVI.

Of the ulemas.—Difference between this body and the miniſters of religion.—Tribunals of juſtice.—Of inheritance.

In every country on earth, the miniſters and interpreters of religion enjoy very great privileges; but in none, without doubt, are the advantages which they derive from their profeſſion ſo great as in Turkey. Here they poſſeſs the moſt lucrative employments; they join judicial to religious power; they are at the ſame time interpreters of religion and judges of all civil and criminal affairs; they are ſecure from the extortions of the pachas and great men of the empire: they cannot be legally put to death without the conſent of their chief: their property, after their deceaſe, paſſes as a right to their heirs, without the imperial treaſury being able to appropriate it to itſelf. They form, in ſhort, under the name of *ulemas*, a corporation, highly conſidered, powerful, and formidable ſometimes to the throne itſelf, from their directing almoſt always public opinion, and from there being, perhaps, no government where public opinion is pronounced with ſo much ſtrength and ſucceſs as in Turkey.

We muſt not, however, confound theſe magiſtrates, theſe doctors of law with the *imans* who ſerve the moſques, with the *muezins*, whoſe employment is to aſcend five times a day to the minarets in order to ſummon the Muſſulmans to prayers: the latter are not admitted into the auguſt body of the *ulemas*: they are turned out of office, or if they voluntarily quit their functions, they return into the claſs of ſimple private perſons. Subject, like the other Turks, to the magiſtrate of the place who appoints them on the preſentation that is made

which there preſent themſelves. He has ſeveral tribunals in different quarters of CONSTANTINOPLE, where he places a naïb or lieutenant, to determine without appeal like himſelf.

The ſtambol-effendi has the general inſpection of the grain and other proviſions which arrive for the ſupply of the city. All the veſſels laden with grain are obliged to come to the landing-place of the general depot of flour, *ouncapan*, where a naïb inſpects it, fixes the price of it, and diſtributes it to the bakers: he keeps a regiſter of the quantity of corn which arrives, of that which is diſtributed, and of the price at which it is delivered. There is likewiſe a naïb at the depot of tallow, *yac-capan*, for the diſtribution of that article to the corporations. The ſtambol-effendi muſt go from time to time into the different quarters of the city, in order to examine the eatables which are ſold by retail, and to verify whether the weights are every where juſt. He immediately puniſhes with the baſtinado thoſe who are found with falſe weights, or with adulterated commodities, and ſometimes he cauſes them to be nailed by the ear to the door of the ſhop. A ſecond tranſgreſſion is almoſt always puniſhed with death.

The ſtambol-effendi remains in office but one year: he generally paſſes to that of kadileſker of NATOLIA, and is appointed from among the mollas of MECCA and MEDINA.

To the imperial moſques of CONSTANTINOPLE, BURSA, and ADRIANOPLE, are attached *madreſſés* or colleges, to which are ſent, from all parts of the empire, young people to be inſtructed in the law of the prophet, in religious, civil, and criminal juriſprudence, and to learn all the opinions, all the ſubtleties of the commentators of the Koran. They are made to undergo various examinations, and when they are thought ſufficiently well informed, they are given the rank of *muderis* or profeſſor. Theſe colleges were founded

a manner, its termination, juſtice is not, on that account, better adminiſtered: the venality of all employments has introduced into every profeſſion and into every claſs of the inhabitants of this empire, an avidity for gain and ſuch a corruption, that the ſmalleſt favour, the ſmalleſt ſervice are obtained only by preſents. A perſon purchaſes the ſentence of the judge and the depoſition of the witneſſes, as you purchaſe an employment, as you purchaſe the favour of a man in place. In no country on earth are falſe witneſſes ſo common and ſo ſhameleſs as in TURKEY, and it ſeldom happens that a cadi or a molla is bold enough to reſiſt the will of a pacha, or the ſolicitations of a great man, and virtuous enough to diſdain the gold which is offered them by the pleaders.

The Muſſulmans have ſuch a contempt for all thoſe who profeſs a religion different from theirs, that they do not, in general, admit as evidence, in affairs which concern them, Jews and Chriſtians, in oppoſition to Turkiſh witneſſes; or if they admit them ſometimes, they have ſo little reſpect for them, that ten witneſſes, among them, are not worth one ſingle Muſſulman witneſs. It is the ſame in the affairs which do not regard them: the teſtimony of a Muſſulman cannot, in any caſe, be balanced by that of ſeveral Jews or Chriſtians.

TOURNEFORT was miſtaken, when he ſays that, at CONSTANTINOPLE, a perſon could appeal from the ſentence of a cadi: Europeans alone enjoy that advantage, when the ſum in litigation exceeds 4000 aſpres or nearly the value of 66 livres, ſuppoſing the piaſtre at 2 livres. In all the towns of TURKEY, the molla, the cadi, and the ſimple naïb, judge without appeal: they condemn to fines, to corporal puniſhments, or to death, without the delinquent or perſon accuſed having it in his power to have recourſe to another tribunal.

Europeans

This prerogative, attached to the body of the ulemas, muſt neceſſarily, in a few generations, accumulate immenſe riches in the hands of ſome individuals, if the ſon followed the career of his father, and limited his ambition to occupying the eminent, lucrative, and honourable places of magiſtracy; but almoſt all, in the view of obtaining greater conſequence, and more extenſive power, diſdain the employments of their father, and ſolicit places of miniſter and pacha, which they almoſt always obtain by means of their riches. Then become agents of the government, all their property returns, at their death, into the public treaſury, and the children are left at the mercy of the ſultan.

A Muſſulman or any other ſubject, who poſſeſſes no adminiſtrative or military place, is maſter of his property, and tranſmits it to his heirs: he may diſpoſe, if he chooſes, of a third of his fortune, when he has children or relations, and of the whole when he has none at all. If he die inteſtate and without natural known heirs, the *beitalmaldgi*, or farmer of caſual property, cauſes a ſale to be made of his effects, moveable or immoveable, of which the *caſſam* makes a memorandum, and takes poſſeſſion of their produce in the name of the imperial treaſury. Should an heir ſome time after preſent himſelf, who can prove to the mékemé his relationſhip, the *beitalmaldgi* is obliged to reſtore the property of the deceaſed. There are, for theſe little ſucceſſions, particular farms, united, in the provinces, to the other rights of the pachas, mutſelims, or waiwodes. CONSTANTINOPLE, on account of its extent, has a particular farmer for that object; but if the ſucceſſion exceed 2500 piaſtres (5000 livres or 208l. ſterling) the farmer has not the right of appropriating it to himſelf; it is paid directly into the public treaſury.

There are four caſes in which inheritance cannot take place: theſe are when there is, 1. difference of religion: 2. difference of country: 3. ſlavery: 4. aſſaſſination or poiſoning.

The mutſelim is a deputy-governor, a lieutenant of the pacha; he enjoys, in his diſtrict, all the rights given him by the power of execution: he is chief of the armed force; but he is ſubject in every thing to the pacha on whom he depends, and whoſe orders he receives.

The waiwode is governor of a ſmall province, or of a town which, not making part of a pachalik, is ſometimes the appanage of a ſultana, of the grand viſir, of the captain-pacha, or of any other great officer of the empire. He enjoys all the prerogatives of a pacha with two tails, but he occupies an inferior rank. When he is required to march at the head of the armed force of his department, he joins his colours to thoſe of the pacha with three tails. Both the one and the other are charged with carrying into execution, in their provinces, the ſentences pronounced by the judges.

In the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, the Muſſulman or Greek ſimply charged by the PORTE with the gathering of the tax and with the police of the place, is likewiſe diſtinguiſhed by the name of waiwode.

To the governors of provinces were formerly given indifferently the names of pacha and of *beyler-bey*: the latter at this day is reſerved for the pachas of MANASTIR and of CUTAYÉ: they have the pre-eminence over the other pachas, and generally command the troops which are brought into the field. The beyler-bey of MANASTIR has under his orders the European troops, and the beyler-bey of CUTAYÉ thoſe of ASIA. They are, nevertheleſs, ſubordinate to the grand-viſir when the latter takes the general command of the armies.

A pachalik is divided as to the military part, into a certain number of diſtricts called *ſangiaks* or *ſtandards*. The janizaries, the ſpahis, the zaïms, and the timiariots of the diſtrict are obliged, in caſe of war, to unite under the colours

thus it is that the Ottoman armies, ſo formidable to their enemies, are become an object of contempt or pity, and that this vaſt empire would already no longer be in exiſtence, were not ſome European powers intereſted in its ſupport.

The aga at the preſent day obtains, in his life-time, with tolerable facility, the grant of the lordſhip which he enjoys, in favour of one or more of his ſons, for a ſum of money inferior to that which is paid when it is put up to auction; but if he neglect this precaution, at his death his ſon is diſpoſſeſſed if he do not outbid the competitors, or if, powerfully protected, he do not at leaſt pay the price offered by another.

Moſt of the agas, little accuſtomed to the fatigues of war and to the privations which it neceſſitates, for a long time paſt have exempted themſelves, under various pretexts, from military ſervice: they always find the pachas and the ſangiaks-beys diſpoſed to receive a preſent from them, and grant them the exemption which they requeſt. They frequently get their place ſupplied by ſome volunteer, or if they themſelves join their colours, they never want pretexts for quitting them before the end of the campaign and returning to their home.

The cultivators are free and independent, in conſideration of the quitrent to which they are ſubject; they may eſtabliſh whatever culture they think the moſt ſuitable to their intereſts, without the aga having a right to moleſt them; but too frequently the latter abuſes his influence, his riches, and above all the police which he exerciſes in his village. He exacts, with the rod in his hand, for particular lands which he poſſeſſes, the gratuitous labour of the cultivators: he cauſes proviſions, wine excepted *, to be ſold to him at the

* Muſſulmans are forbidden to make, drink, or purchaſe wine.

price

price which he himſelf determines; he makes the advances of the karatch * at an intereſt extremely uſurious; in a word, he torments in a thouſand ways the Greeks, the Armenians, and the Jews of his village; but he is more reſerved towards the Muſſulmans, becauſe the complaints of the latter are always more favourably heard, becauſe he would infallibly be removed from his office, and even more ſeverely puniſhed, if all the Turks of the village, protected or ſupported by ſome powerful enemy of the aga, roſe at the ſame time and demanded juſtice.

Throughout the whole empire there are two ſorts of organized troops, the one of cavalry, the other of infantry, the ſpahis and the janizaries. The former are ſpread over all the towns, and more particularly in the country-places: they are almoſt all married and ſettled; they exerciſe different profeſſions or ſometimes apply themſelves to the culture of the land; they receive a daily pay, have their officers, and aſſemble at the firſt order, armed and equipped, under the colours of their diſtrict.

The ſpahis are a more ancient corps than the janizaries: they have more pay, and are underſtood to be the ſons of Muſſulmans in a certain degree of affluence; they fight under the ſame enſigns as the ziamets and the timariots, and ought to ſucceed them in the poſſeſſion of their fiefs, if the regulations of the firſt ſultans were more reſpected, or the national intereſt a little more conſulted.

Under the firſt ſultans, the ſpahis formed the principal ſtrength of the Ottoman armies. Almoſt always in the field, familiarized to military exerciſes, hardened to the fatigues of war, ſtimulated by intereſt, glory, religious fanaticiſm, and by the example of the ſultan, it is not ſurpriſing that nothing ſhould

* Capitation or perſonal impoſt to which non-Muſſulmans are ſubject.

withſtand their arms, and that the Greeks, enervated by luxury and riches, ſolely occupied by intrigues and theological queſtions, ſhould be as ſoon ſubjugated as conquered.

In the reign of AMURAT I. a fifth part of all the priſoners was begun to be taken for the purpoſe of forming a new corps of infantry, under the name of *yenitcheri*, janizaries, or new militia. The neceſſities of the war afterwards produced another law which incorporated in this corps a tenth part of the children of the Chriſtians, and which was in vigour till the reign of AMURAT IV. Under that of SOLIMAN I. there were already one hundred and ſixty-one *odas* * of janizaries at CONSTANTINOPLE, each of which contained from three to five hundred perſons.

At preſent none but Muſſulmans are received into this militia: they are ſcattered and organized in all the towns. Thoſe who inſcribe their names in it receive a daily pay, and join their colours whenever they are required. In the large towns and in the fortreſſes, they are divided into chambers; they are ſubject to patroles, to different expeditions, to the guard of gates, &c. The greater part are married, ſettled, and exerciſe different profeſſions. Theſe renounce all promotion, and generally exempt themſelves, under various pretexts, from joining their colours.

Many rich perſons, in the towns, enliſt among the janizaries, in the view only of being more effectually protected, and of enjoying all the privileges attached to that corps. They receive no pay, and, for a little money, eaſily exempt themſelves from all military ſervice.

The commandant-general of this troop is called *janizary-aga*; he reſides at CONSTANTINOPLE; and, although he enjoys great power, and great conſider-

* *Oda*, chamber, or company.

ation,

enterpriſing, and ever ready to execute the orders of their maſter in the expeditions which he commands, and in the extortions which he directs. They follow him to war, perform the office of light troops, and fight without order and without diſcipline: they ſtop and bring back to battle the runaways, and frequently precipitate themſelves into the enemy's ranks, with a boldneſs which aſtoniſhes and which ſometimes determines the victory in their favour.

When a pacha is diſgraced, or when, from any motive, he diſmiſſes his déli-baches, as they are without pay and without reſources, they then commit the moſt terrible robberies; they ſpread themſelves over the fields, the villages, and even the towns; they rob indiſcriminately, lay all under contribution, and ſtop and plunder the caravans, till they are called into the ſervice of ſome other pacha, or till ſome impoſing force has put them to flight and diſperſed them.

In the moſt deſpotic empire, the will of the ſovereign is limited, circumſcribed or fettered by laws and cuſtoms which he cannot call in queſtion without danger: ſuch is the Ottoman Empire. As ſucceſſor of the caliphs, the ſultan unites in himſelf every power; he is ſovereign abſolute, legiſlator, pontiff, and ſupreme chief of religion: he may create, change, and modify, according to his wiſh or his caprice, the laws of the State: he eſtabliſhes the impoſts and taxes which he judges neceſſary: he diſpoſes at his pleaſure of the eminent places, adminiſtrative and military, religious and judicial of the empire: he is maſter of the life and of the fortune of all his officers and of all the agents that he keeps in pay; however, he would find inſurmountable obſtacles if he meddled with the fundamental laws depoſited in the book of the prophet, and even with moſt of thoſe which cuſtom immemorial has rendered, as it were, as ſacred as the others. In eſtabliſhing impoſts, he takes care not to overburden the people, ever ready to manifeſt

by preventing, on the one hand, the complaints reſpecting his conduct from reaching the throne, and, on the other, by performing ſcrupulouſly the engagements which he has contracted towards the imperial treaſury; but if he ſucceed, like the pachas of SCUTARI, PALESTINE, BAGDAD, and ſo many others, in extending his government, and rendering it ſufficiently productive to have an army, he obliges the ſovereign to ſpare him, to confirm him every year in his pachalik, and to preſerve only the appearance of power. True it is that, in that caſe, the ſultan employs his two great means, cunning and patience; he diſpatches ſecretly, and under various pretexts, *capidgis* to the pacha of whom he wiſhes to be rid: if the latter be not ſufficiently miſtruſtful for preventing any ſuſpicious man from approaching too near him, he receives the mortal blow, and the capidgi inſtantly produces the firman of the Grand Signior, which all the by-ſtanders, in their turn, kiſs with reſpect, and place on their head in token of ſubmiſſion.

What delays the ruin of the greater part of the provinces, are the *ayams*, (an Arabic word which ſignifies *eye*,) whoſe employment is to watch over the ſafety and the fortune of individuals, over the good order and the defence of a town, to oppoſe the unjuſt enterpriſes of the pachas, the exactions of the military, and to concur in the juſt aſſeſſment of the taxes. Appointed by the people, they are generally men reputed the moſt virtuous, who undertake this honourable function: there are ſeveral of them in the great towns; a ſingle one commonly unites ſeveral villages in the plains. The ayams receive no other reward for their zeal and their trouble, than the conſideration, almoſt always merited, which they enjoy, and the ſatisfaction which an honeſt man feels when he is uſeful to his fellow-creatures.

The ayams call to their divan the notables of the town and the lawyers, in order to diſcuſs ſubjects of a very great intereſt, to digeſt with them the remonſtrances to be made to the pacha, and to eſtabliſh in concert the

CHAPTER XVIII.

Of the grand viſir.—Of the divan of the Porte, *and of the members of whom it is compoſed.—Of the kodjakians and of the vacouſs.*

THE dignity which is on a footing with that of mufti or of ſheik-iſlam, but the powers of which are much more extenſive, is that of grand viſir or of viſir-azem. Being the lieutenant of the ſultan, in whoſe name he governs and from whom he holds the ſeal, inveſted with the greateſt authority, and intruſted with all the power of execution, the viſir may ſtrike off the heads of perſons receiving ſalaries who oppoſe the progreſs of the government, who throw obſtacles in the way of its adminiſtration, who do not obey its orders, or do not execute them according to its pleaſure; he commands the armies in perſon; he diſpoſes of the finances; he names or cauſes perſons to be named to all the adminiſtrative and military employments. Nothing, in a word, is foreign to his powers, but the interpretation of the law intruſted to the ulemas.

But the greater the power of the grand viſir, the greater is his reſponſibility. He is accountable both to the ſovereign and to the people, for the acts of injuſtice which he commits, for the unfortunate reſult of his adminiſtration, for the extortions which he does not repreſs; he is accountable, above all, for the unexpected dearneſs of proviſions, for too frequent fires, and for the defeats of the armies: all the misfortunes of the State are attributed to him. The ſword, always ſuſpended over his head, ſtrikes him equally whether he diſpleaſe the people, or diſoblige the ſultan.

Secretly attacked by thoſe who are ambitious of his place, by thoſe whom he has diſſatisfied, or to whom he has done an ill office, ſurrounded by ſnares, and expoſed to every ſhaft, it is extremely rare for a viſir to grow old in the dangerous poſt which he occupies, if he poſſeſs not the difficult art of making the great tremble, of making himſelf beloved by the people, and of rendering himſelf neceſſary to the ſultan. How many might we inſtance, whom intrigue has diſplaced or cauſed to periſh, whom the ſultan has ſacrificed to his own ſafety! How many viſirs does not hiſtory afford us, whoſe preſumptuous ignorance has occaſioned the misfortunes of the State and accelerated their own ruin!

The other miniſters, obliged to confer with the grand viſir and to take his orders, diſburden themſelves on him of all the reſponſibility attached to their adminiſtration, and the counſellors by whom he is ſurrounded cannot ſave him when his ruin is reſolved on. At liberty to follow or to reject their advice, there remain for him neither pretexts nor excuſes: it is to him alone that the ſovereign power is intruſted, it is to him alone to give an account.

The law and cuſtom, as I have ſaid with regard to the ſultan and the pachas, have put ſome ſhackles on the right which the viſir has to puniſh with death all the agents, all the perſons in the pay of the government. Before he ſtrikes off the head of a great perſonage of the empire, he muſt have an order ſigned by the hand of the ſultan; and when a military man is in queſtion, he muſt obtain the approbation of the commanders.

In the frequent excurſions which he makes incog. in the city for the purpoſe of having an eye to good order, of informing himſelf of the ſtate of the articles of food, examining the weights and meaſures, and inſpecting the conduct of the agents appointed for the diſtribution of proviſions, the viſir, accompanied by a public executioner, and ſome officers diſguiſed like himſelf,

orders

orders delinquents to be apprehended and puniſhed on the ſpot: he calls out, if neceſſary, the guard of the quarter; he directs the baſtinado to be given to the ſhopkeepers who vend aliments of bad quality; he cauſes him who is found with falſe weights to be nailed by the ear againſt the door of the ſhop; he even puniſhes with death relapſes or malverſations of too ſerious a nature. During fires, he orders to be ſtruck off the head of the thief caught in the very fact; but, in thoſe caſes, the law has pronounced beforehand the penalty of death. Charged to liſten to the complaints of individuals, to cauſe juſtice to be done to all, the viſir cannot, under any pretext, diſpoſe legally of the life and fortune of citizens. It is not that he does not too frequently abuſe his authority; it is not that he does not ſometimes yield to perfidious advice, that he does not ſuffer himſelf to be led away by motives of hatred or revenge, that the thirſt of gold does not impel him to arbitrary acts; but woe be to him if his injuſtice be too revolting! When he too frequently puts himſelf above the laws, the people, in their turn, trample him under foot, unleſs the ſultan be expeditious in adminiſtering juſtice.

At the head of the armies, far from the eye of the ſovereign, the power of the grand viſir is diſengaged from the forms which ſometimes reſtrain him in the capital, and it muſt be confeſſed that he has the utmoſt need of there diſplaying a very great ſeverity. The Muſſulmans naturally turbulent and ſeditious, can be checked only by the ſight of puniſhments. If the heads of the mutineers, of the plunderers, and of the aſſaſſins do not fall from time to time, ſhortly the army no longer exhibits any but ſcattered gangs of robbers who devaſtate, with the ſame avidity, the provinces of the empire and thoſe belonging to the enemy.

The kadileſkers or ordinary judges of the army follow it only when the ſultan commands it in perſon: a molla appointed for that purpoſe always diſcharges

diſcharges their functions when the viſir has the command. It is the ſame when it is ſubmitted to a pacha; but, in all caſes, death muſt immediately follow the knowledge of the crime, and the ſentence of the judge is but a ſimple formality.

The grand viſir gives audience to the public on ſeveral days of the week; he hears the complaints of the citizens, admits or rejects their petitions, permits them to plead their cauſe before the kadileſkers, the ſtambol-effendi, and the mollas of GALATA, AIJUB, and SCUTARI, and to cauſe juſtice to be adminiſtered to them with ſufficient diſpatch; but it is not correct to ſay that he renders it himſelf. Unleſs it be an affair of police, or that the petitioners and the delinquents be agents of the government, the ſentences are pronounced by the ordinary judges: the viſir cauſes them to be executed as the pachas do in the provinces.

When the grand viſir is obliged to abſent himſelf in order to take the command of the army, the ſultan appoints for the interim a caïmacan or ſubſtitute who diſcharges his functions, is inveſted with the ſame authority, enjoys the ſame rights, but not the ſame revenues; his ſalary is fixed, and the emoluments of the place belong to the viſir, to whom the caïmacan muſt give an account of them. It is generally a pacha with three tails who is appointed to this eminent place.

A very remarkable change has taken place in the government ſince SELIM III. created a new council to which are at this day ſubmitted all projects, to which are referred all important affairs, and from which emanate all the reſolutions and, as it were, all the acts of the government. The reſponſibility of the viſir muſt have diminiſhed with his power: the misfortunes of the State, the public calamities cannot henceforth be attributed to him; and if the

firſt place of the Ottoman Empire continue to be changeable and tottering, it will at leaſt be no longer accompanied by the ſame dangers.

The divan or the council of the grand viſir was formerly compoſed of ſix ordinary viſirs or pachas with three tails, whoſe reputation for wiſdom and intelligence was not to be equivocal. The viſir aſked their opinion when he thought it neceſſary. To this council were likewiſe admitted the mufti and the two kadileſkers when the law was to be conſulted.

A little time after his acceſſion to the throne, SELIM compoſed this council of twelve perſons the moſt diſtinguiſhed by their office. The viſir and the mufti are preſidents of it, the one in his quality of lieutenant-general of the empire for temporal affairs; the other as vicar of the ſultan for the interpretation and depoſitory of the laws. The other ten members are the *kiaya-bey*, the *reis-effendi*, the *tcſterdar-effendi*, the *tchélébi-effendi*, the *terſana-émini*, the *tchiaoux-bachi*, two *ex-reis-effendi*, and two *ex-teſterdars effendi*.

The kiaya-bey is, properly ſpeaking, the lieutenant of the viſir; he momentarily diſcharges his functions when the latter happens to die. All affairs paſs through his hands before they arrive at the viſir, and all orders emanating from the PORTE receive their execution through the impulſe of the kiaya-bey. He is appointed by the Grand Signior, on the preſentation of the viſir. He is generally involved in the diſgrace of his principal, and if he do not loſe his head as frequently as he, his fortune, in that caſe, always runs the greateſt riſk. Although he have no military rank, it may be ſaid that he occupies the ſecond adminiſtrative place in the empire, conſidering the importance and the multiplicity of his functions. If the ſultan be diſſatisfied with his ſervices, he receives, on quitting his office, the dignity of ſimple viſir or pacha with three tails. It ſeldom happens that he is given only the two tails when he is ſent to govern a province.

The

The reis-effendi is, as it were, ſecretary of ſtate, high chancellor of the empire, the principal of the *gens de plume* *, the miniſter for foreign affairs. He ſigns all the orders of the PORTE, which do not directly concern the finances and the military operations; he treats with all the European miniſters who are at CONSTANTINOPLE; in a word, every thing that concerns the foreign powers, and every thing that relates to the interior adminiſtration, paſſes through the channel of the reis effendi; but he does nothing without communicating it to the grand viſir and taking his orders.

The teſterdar-effendi muſt be conſidered as the miniſter of the finances; he receives the produce reſulting from the ſale of the great employments, that which ariſes from the annual renewal of the barats or firmans obtained by the zaïms, timariots, and others, the produce of the karatch or capitation-tax on the Jews and Chriſtians; the produce of the farmed domains, that of the cuſtoms, &c. He has a great number of offices into which are poured the different revenues of the empire, and at which are made the different payments ordered by the PORTE. There are at the head of each office, a great officer, principals and clerks taken from among the kodjakians or *gens de plume* of whom I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak further on.

This miniſter cannot be confounded with the khaſné-veliki, a black eunuch, charged with the general adminiſtration of the interior imperial treaſure, into which are poured the produce of the confiſcations and inheritances that ſerve for the ſupport of the ſeraglio. The preſents, the effects, the jewels which are ſent by foreign powers, thoſe acquired by conqueſt, the colours, &c. conſtitute a part of this treaſure.

* As we have not in ENGLAND thoſe three diſtinctions, made in FRANCE, of *gens de plume*, *gens d'ép e*, and *gens de robe*, we have deemed it more expedient to retain the French term than to employ one which might be ambiguous to the reader.—*Tranſlator.*

The

The private treaſure of the ſultan is adminiſtered by the khaſnadar-aga, one of the pages of confidence. This treaſure, increaſed by the ſavings of the greater part of the ſultans, is ſupported by the profits of the mint and by ſome confiſcations.

The place of tchélébi-effendi did not exiſt formerly; it was created under the reign of SELIM III, at the ſame time as the tax on wine, eatables, and moſt articles of merchandiſe, as cotton, wool, &c. The produce of this tax, known by the name of *nizam-djedit*, has been appropriated to the new corps of gunners, bombardiers, matroſſes, and fuſileers that has been formed, to the buildings which have been conſtructed for them, to the foundery of cannon, to the manufactory of muſkets, gun-carriages, &c. The tchélébi-effendi is the receiver-general of this tax, the adminiſtrator of theſe funds, the inſpector-general of theſe eſtabliſhments, the intendant of the buildings.

I have ſaid, in another place, that the terſana-émini was the miniſter of the marine.

The tchiaoux-bachi is ſecretary of ſtate; it is to him that a perſon muſt addreſs himſelf to ſee the grand viſir, to be admitted to his divan, to plead at his tribunal. He has about him two *teſkeredjis* who receive the memorials, the claims, the petitions of the pleaders and of all thoſe who preſent themſelves, and who adminiſter juſtice according to the order of the viſir.

The captain-pacha and the kiaya of the ſultana-validai are called to the extraordinary councils; and although they are not ordinary members of the council, they are conſulted, and both have the greateſt influence in the deliberations from the intereſt which the former preſerves with SELIM, and from that which the latter has obtained with the ſultana-mother. The latter was born

poor in CANDIA. He is ſaid to be a man of underſtanding and very clever: he poſſeſſes, above all, the art of intrigue, and joins to his eaſy manners, an agreeable and prepoſſeſſing perſon.

SELIM, occupied with uſeful eſtabliſhments, ameliorations, and changes neceſſitated by the critical circumſtances in which he found himſelf on his acceſſion to the throne, could not doubt of the ſucceſs of his enterpriſes in cauſing to emanate from a council formed by the moſt powerful and the moſt enlightened men of the empire, all the innovations that he wiſhed to introduce, all the beneficent laws that he wiſhed to have paſſed. Could he ſuſpect, that by rendering arbitrary acts leſs frequent, great executions more rare, by diminiſhing the too abſolute and too tyrannical power of the viſir, by ſubmitting to diſcuſſion all the operations of the government, by promulgating no law till it had, as it were, received the ſanction of his council, guilt would become more frequent, ambition more audacious, rebellion more difficult to be repreſſed, armies of robbers more numerous? Could he imagine, in a word, that the influence of foreign powers would be greater, and that it would ſucceed in ſtopping all the ſalutary meaſures that he wiſhed to have adopted?

This council, unfortunately compoſed of members enemies among themſelves, jealous of each other, more taken up with themſelves than with the happineſs of the State, is very far from having accompliſhed the intentions of SELIM. One would be inclined to believe, from ſeeing it ſometimes in inaction in the midſt of dangers, and ſometimes in a route contrary to that which it ought to follow, that moſt of the members, far from ſeconding the deſigns of the ſultan, labour, on the contrary, to make them miſcarry. Since its creation, the ſtate of affairs is daily becoming worſe; the empire is menaced with a total diſſolution; the finances are exhauſted; and a rebel already threatens to place a ſtranger on the throne. He is waiting, perhaps,

only

only of *gens de plume*, and ſince ſome among them obtain fiefs, military rank, and governments.

Almoſt all the miniſters, all the agents in the different adminiſtrations of the capital, the cuſtoms, and the moſques; all the principals of offices, all the ſecretaries, all the clerks, all the ſchoolmaſters; in a word, all the writers, from the ſimple *kiatib*, who copies books, petitions, or memorials, and him who applies himſelf to writing purely and correctly the language, to the reis-effendi who is at the head of them, are all diſtinguiſhed by the name of *kodja*, and make part of that ſort of corporation.

The art of tranſcribing the national books and eſpecially the Koran, forms the nurſery of the *gens de plume*. The number of copyiſts of theſe books is prodigious in the capital. Young men who have no fortune, and who are deſirous of embracing this profeſſion, after having learned to read and write in the ſchools, apply themſelves firſt to the copying and ſelling of books; they afterwards draw up petitions and memorials for thoſe who have occaſion for them. If they diſplay intelligence, and acquire information in this trade, they ſucceed in procuring themſelves a place in ſome office, and by degrees, with protectors, conduct, application, and, above all, money, they arrive at the firſt ſituations in the public offices, and at the firſt dignities in the miniſtry.

The Muſſulmans are indebted to the kodjas for a vaſt number of works held in great eſtimation among them, relative to the Arabic and Perſian languages, philoſophy, morality, Mahometan hiſtory, and the geography of their provinces; and it is among them that are generally found the ſtateſmen the moſt intelligent and the moſt capable of ſerving as miniſters.

6

The

It is to the government alone, founded on an oppreſſive religion, that we muſt impute the knavery of ſome, the tyranny of others, the vices of all. The Greeks, the Armenians, and the Jews, deprived of the rights of citizenſhip, excluded from civil employments and from military ſervice, ſtrangers to the religion on which every thing reſts, obliged to redeem every year their head by a diſgraceful tax *, threatened inceſſantly with the loſs of their life or their fortune, and weak and unprotected, have, from their very infancy, learnt to diſſemble, to give way to the ſmalleſt ſhock, to withdraw themſelves from force by addreſs, from violence by ſubmiſſion. They have been obliged to be falſe from habit, cringing and vile from fear, cunning and knaviſh from the neceſſity of living and exiſting.

The Muſſulmans, vain of their ſuperiority, inſolent towards unarmed ſlaves, proud of belonging to a religion which inſpires contempt for all thoſe who are not admitted into it; fanatic, ferocious, and unjuſt through the effect of that religion; tolerated in the extortions which they exerciſe towards tributary ſubjects; emboldened even by a government which dreads thoſe whom it oppreſſes; the Muſſulmans, like their anceſtors, would poſſeſs a diſpoſition for greatneſs, heroiſm, and robbery, had they preſerved their morals, their courage, and all their fanaticiſm. But at this day the ſale of all employments and the precarious tenure of them makes all private perſons avaricious, and converts all the depoſitaries of authority into oppreſſors. Juſtice is venal, becauſe the cadis have been laid under contribution; the venality of the judges has produced falſe witneſſes; religious zeal is relaxed, courage is worn out, immorality has crept in every where: one may ſay boldly that it has at the preſent day reached its higheſt pitch in the towns.

The law of confiſcations has frequently occaſioned to be conſidered as criminal men whom birth, chance, or induſtry had enriched. That which aſſigns

* The karatch.

to

out ſucceſs, becauſe it is commanded by men who are no longer in their place; our navy, I ſay, will inſure us this important trade when it ſhall rival in glory our armies, when the bravery of our ſailors ſhall be directed by the talents, the information, and the prudence of their commanders.

Did not the miſchievous genius of the Turks lead them to ſtifle conceptions and paralyze induſtry, did not their anti-ſocial religion impoſe ſilence on reaſon and philoſophy, no city in the world would be better calculated to ſerve as an emporium to an extenſive commerce, than CONSTANTINOPLE. Situated on the confines of EUROPE and ASIA, between the MEDITERRANEAN and the EUXINE, ſurrounded by fertile provinces, the capital of a vaſt empire, CONSTANTINOPLE would ſee paſs within its walls the productions of the EAST and of the WEST, as well as thoſe of the NORTH and of the SOUTH. The caravans of ASIA and the ſhips of EUROPE would ſucceed each other without interruption, for the purpoſe of effecting exchanges advantageous to all nations *.

But, in the preſent ſtate of affairs, this commerce is very limited. The induſtry of the inhabitants is confined to the ſimple wants of the city, and its territory is ſo little cultivated that it affords no article of exportation. Nevertheleſs, the neighbouring countries are ſo fertile and ſo productive, that they ſupply not only the numerous inhabitants of the capital, but permit the French merchants to export a ſufficiency to pay for one half of the value of the merchandiſe which they receive from MARSEILLES. A part of theſe commodities paſſes through the town, the other is immediately ſhipped at RODOSTO, at MUNDANIA, at the DARDANELLES, and at the harbour of ENOS.

* If the BOSPHORUS and the HELLESPONT belonged to an induſtrious, civilized power; if they made a part of a vaſt empire, CONSTANTINOPLE would neceſſarily become the metropolis of the world.

In

In ſpeaking here only of the export-trade, my object is to make known the moſt uſeful natural productions of every country that I ſhall viſit, and the commodities of which European commerce may have availed itſelf. At the end of this work I ſhall preſent a general picture of the import-trade which FRANCE carries on with all the LEVANT. I ſhall publiſh, at another time, thoſe articles of natural hiſtory which have not been treated of, or are little known.

Wool.

Wool forms the principal article of exportation from CONSTANTINOPLE, and the ſecond from all the LEVANT. It is eſtimated that the price of the wools which the French merchants ſend to MARSEILLES from CONSTANTINOPLE, RODOSTO, the DARDANELLES, and ENOS, amounts, one year with another, to 1,500,000 livres (*circa* 62,499l. ſterling). This value has ſometimes riſen to upwards of 2,000,000 (83,333l. ſterling). They come from the environs of the BOSPHORUS, from the PROPONTIS, and from the HELLESPONT, as well as from ROMANIA, BULGARIA, BESSARABIA, and the ſouthern coaſts of the BLACK SEA. The ſlaughter-houſes of the capital alone furniſh a ſomewhat conſiderable quantity.

In TURKEY are bred two ſorts of ſheep, that with a broad tail, and that with a common tail. The former is the larger, its fleece is leſs fine, and its tail receives ſuch a quantity of fat, that it ſometimes weighs upwards of ten pounds. The wool of the plain-tailed ſheep of BULGARIA, and of BESSARABIA, which comes to CONSTANTINOPLE by way of VARNA, or which paſſes through ADRIANOPLE, in order to be ſhipped at the harbour of ENOS, is the moſt eſteemed. The wools of BOSNIA are reckoned to be of a quality ſuperior to all thoſe of the LEVANT: they are conveyed on the back of mules or horſes, to SPALATRO, ZERA, and RAGUSA, whence they go by ſea to VENICE. The wools of WALLACHIA and of the North of SERVIA are generally ſpread through all GERMANY.

All

plenty by a ſhe-goat on the mountains of KERMAN. I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak of it elſewhere.

Goat's Hair.

On the hills and mountains of the environs of ANGORA, is bred a goat ſmaller than ours, with pendulous ears and ſhort legs, whoſe white fleece, long and very fine, is carefully ſpun by the inhabitants of the country, and partly employed by them in the manufacturing of the ſtuffs known under the name of ſerges, camlets, and *chalis* of ANGORA. The French have ſeveral factories in this town, for the purchaſe of the thread; and although this trade has for ſome time paſt been carried on through SMYRNA rather than through CONSTANTINOPLE, nevertheleſs, ſeveral bales of it paſs through this latter city, which the French merchants diſpatch to MARSEILLES.

Beſides the goat's hair of ANGORA, there is alſo known in trade that of BEIBAZAR, which lies fifteen or twenty leagues to the weſtward on the road of BURSA. The former is more eſteemed than the latter; it is finer, more ſupple, and more eaſy to be wrought; but that of BEIBAZAR is whiter, becauſe the inhabitants of this town are in the habit of ſoaping and waſhing the hair before they ſpin it.

The ANGORA goats have much affinity, as to the fineneſs of their hair, to thoſe of KERMAN and thoſe of CACHEMIRE. Both of them inhabit elevated places, cold in winter and very warm in ſummer; both are taken great care of, combed, and frequently waſhed by the ſhepherds who guard them.

Cotton.

Cotton is not cultivated at CONSTANTINOPLE nor on the ſhores of the BLACK SEA: the climate is too cold. It is only in the ſouth and weſt part of

of the PROPONTIS, in the environs of the HELLESPONT, that the culture of this valuable vegetable begins. Cotton is the moſt plentiful merchandiſe of the LEVANT, and that which the French draw in the greateſt quantity. The merchants of CONSTANTINOPLE diſpatch annually from GALLIPOLI, from the DARDANELLES, and from ENOS, about ſix hundred and fifty bales, eſtimated at 125,000 livres (*circa* 5,208l. ſterling).

Neither are the white ſpun cotton and the red dyed ſpun cotton of ADRIANOPLE a very important article of the export-trade of CONSTANTINOPLE: their value ſcarcely exceeds 40,000 livres, while from SMYRNA alone, MARSEILLES draws upwards of 2,000,000 of livres of ſpun cotton half white, half dyed red, and to the amount of 5,400,000 of livres of cotton wool: the greater part of the other ſea-port towns of the LEVANT furniſh more or leſs of this laſt article.

Formerly the red ſpun cotton of ADRIANOPLE enjoyed a very great reputation; but, for ſome time paſt, a preference is given to that of LARISSA in GREECE, and to thoſe of the environs of SMYRNA and of ſome towns of the interior of ASIA MINOR. Means have alſo been found within a ſhort time, in our French manufactories, to give ſpun cotton a red colour full as beautiful and as durable as that which is given to it in TURKEY. The red ſpun cottons of GREECE do not come into FRANCE; they paſs by the ADRIATIC, to VENICE and TRIESTE, whence they ſpread all over GERMANY.

Buffaloes' hides.

The buffalo is in very great plenty throughout the EAST: it ſerves for tillage: it is harneſſed to the waggons; it is made to turn the ſtones of mills, and wheels for the raiſing of water from wells. It is ſtronger than the ox, and more generally employed. Although it delights more particularly in

aquatic or marſhy places, on the banks of large and ſmall rivers, it nevertheleſs thrives every where, and acquires a ſize above that of oxen.

Its fleſh is ſcarcely fit to be eaten: it is tougher, leſs ſavoury than that of the ox, and is almoſt always accompanied by an odour of muſk which renders it by no means agreeable. It ſeldom happens that the Orientals ſubſiſt on it; they univerſally prefer the ſheep, whoſe fleſh is much more delicate than in our countries. The milk of the female is abundant and well-taſted; but the butter preſerves a ſmell ſomewhat diſagreeable, to which, however, one is ſoon reconciled.

The hide of the buffalo is much thicker and far more ſubſtantial than that of the ox; it weighs from eighty to a hundred pounds, and even more. A great quantity of them comes to CONSTANTINOPLE from ROMANIA, BULGARIA, BESSARABIA, WALLACHIA, and MOLDAVIA, and very few from the interior of ASIA MINOR. The hides of the males are more eſteemed than thoſe of the females; they are thicker, ſtronger, and much heavier. There paſs annually to MARSEILLES five or ſix thouſand of them, the price of which, one with another, is 15 livres or 2 ſhillings and 6 pence ſterling. ANCONA, LEGHORN, and MESSINA alſo conſume a rather large quantity. The Orientals content themſelves with ſalting thoſe which are intended for MARSEILLES and ANCONA; while thoſe which are carried to LEGHORN and MESSINA have been dreſſed and tanned with the cup of the Velani oak.

Thoſe hides, dreſſed and tanned at GRASSE in the department of the VAR, with different ſubſtances, and among others with myrtle, are very thick and very ſtrong, have a greeniſh colour, and are employed by the country-people for ſoles which laſt twice or thrice as long as thoſe of the beſt ox-hides.

dreſs the ſkins of the ſhe and he goats killed in the capital, and thoſe which are diſpatched from ROMANIA and the interior of ASIA. Almoſt all the towns of TURKEY alſo manufacture ſome, becauſe the conſumption of them is every where conſiderable. The Turks, as is well known, wear no other ſhoe-leather than morocco: the black and the violet ſerve for the Jews and the Armenians. The Greeks employ more generally the red: this is alſo the colour of the janizaries and of the common people. The rich Muſſulmans, both men and women, all wear yellow ſhoes. Yellow is ſtrictly prohibited to tributary ſubjects, ſuch as the Greeks, the Armenians, and the Jews. Amongſt them there are none but thoſe who are attached to the legations and to the conſulates of foreign powers, or who are ſpecially protected by a barat, that can adorn themſelves with this privileged colour.

It is ſaid that the Turks learnt from the Algerines, to dye morocco red, which is known to be very beautiful among them, and for which they employ madder root, kermes, and a very little cochineal.

Their yellow morocco is not inferior in beauty to the red. In quality it is generally ſuperior, becauſe in the manufactories the ſkins which appear the beſt are ſelected, in order to be dyed the colour reſerved for the Muſſulmans.

The common moroccos are ſold for 2 livres 50 centimes a piece. The French merchants diſpatch annually from CONSTANTINOPLE, twelve or fifteen hundred. The other European nations alſo purchaſe a ſmall quantity.

According to the inſtructions which were given to us before our departure, we made ſome efforts to learn the proceedings which are employed in the dreſſing and in the dyeing of morocco: we offered money in order to be permitted to follow the proceſs made uſe of in the manufactories; but we found

found every where a reſiſtance of which we did not imagine the Turks capable. Although we entered ſeveral times into their manufactories, it was impoſſible for us to diſcover whether it is to the quality of the ſkins which they employ, or to their proceedings, that we muſt attribute the beauty of the morocos of the LEVANT. Among the ſubſtances which we perceived, are lime, ſumac, the galnut, the cup of the Velani oak, dog's dung, madder root, cochineal, kermes, the rind of the pomegranate, and the ſeed of a rhamnus, different from that which yields the ſeed of AVIGNON.

Silk.

Before the troubles of PERSIA, the caravans brought to CONSTANTINOPLE and to SMYRNA a great deal of ſilk from GUILAN, CHIRVAN, and ADERBEJAN, which the French and the Engliſh were eager to purchaſe; but, for ſome time paſt, theſe ſilks go into RUSSIA by the CASPIAN SEA, and a part paſſes thence into ENGLAND by the BALTIC, as I ſhall have occaſion to mention when I ſhall ſpeak of the commerce of PERSIA with RUSSIA.

None but the ſilks of BURSA, ADRIANOPLE, and BULGARIA are at this day known at CONSTANTINOPLE. Thoſe of BURSA are the moſt abundant and the moſt eſteemed; they are almoſt all white; and their thread is fine and tolerably ſupple. This ſilk ſupplies the numerous manufactories of the town, thoſe of the capital, and thoſe of SCIO; ſome even goes to ALEPPO and to DAMASCUS; and, nevertheleſs, there is every year exported to the amount of 2 or 300,000 livres. The French have a houſe eſtabliſhed there: the Engliſh ſend thither factors when they wiſh to make purchaſes, and the merchants of TUNIS and ALGIERS alſo come thither to provide themſelves every year.

The environs of NICOMEDIA, NICEA, and all the country ſituated between OLYMPUS and the PROPONTIS, are covered with white mulberry-trees cultivated

vated with care, and with a ſufficient degree of intelligence. The inhabitants prefer keeping them dwarfs, in order to ſtrip them more eaſily of their leaves.

The ſilk of ADRIANOPLE and BULGARIA is almoſt all white, and in point of quality, approaches that of BURSA. It has been tolerably abundant there for ſome years paſt, and eſpecially ſince a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of BURSA have come thither to plant a great many mulberry-trees, and apply themſelves to the rearing of ſilk-worms.

This tree does not grow on the other ſide of the DANUBE; but it thrives very well in the CRIMEA; which leads us to preſume that ſhortly that fertile country, under an enlightened government, will produce ſilk as eaſily as wine, and that we ſhall at the ſame time ſee there almoſt all the productions of EUROPE.

Wax.

So great a quantity of wax comes from all the coaſts of the BLACK SEA, of the PROPONTIS, and of the HELLESPONT, as well as from ROMANIA, BULGARIA, WALLACHIA, and MOLDAVIA, that the French merchants eſtabliſhed at CONSTANTINOPLE diſpatch of it every year to the value of 300,000 livres (*circa* 12,800l. ſterling). A great deal is ſent to GENOA, LEGHORN, and VENICE. The Engliſh and the Dutch alſo purchaſe ſome, and there is, beſides, a great conſumption made of it in the Greek and Armenian churches, and in the houſes of all the individuals of the country, eſpecially during the month of the ramazan.

The wax of the interior of ASIA MINOR is conveyed by the caravans, to ALEPPO and to SMYRNA.

Box.

Box.

Box is abundant in ſome places of the ſouth coaſt of the BLACK SEA: there comes ſome from BARTHIN, a ſmall town ſituated at the mouth of the *PARTHENIUS*; but the fineſt is to be found on Mount CAUCASUS, and comes to CONSTANTINOPLE by the ſhips which bring Georgian, Circaſſian, and Mingrelian female ſlaves. There is ſent to MARSEILLES every year to the value of 12,000 livres (500l. ſterling).

Copper.

Such a quantity of copper is drawn from the mines which are ſituated to the ſouth of TREBISOND, in the environs of TOCAT, and in ſeveral places of ASIA MINOR, that TURKEY is able to pay with this metal for a part of the merchandiſe which ſhe draws from INDIA. There comes annually to MARSEILLES, from CONSTANTINOPLE, from SMYRNA, and from the ports of SYRIA, to the value of from 12 to 1300,000 livres. A great deal alſo paſſes into ITALY, and the Turks make a very great conſumption of it for their artillery which is all of braſs, for their table and kitchen utenſils, for their mangals, their chandeliers, and others.

There likewiſe comes to MARSEILLES to the value of 5 or 6,000 livres of copper coffee-pots, made at TREBISOND, or in the environs of that town.

Orpiment.

From the interior of ASIA MINOR is alſo drawn a very conſiderable quantity of orpiment. This mineral ſubſtance, mixed with a bolary earth, is employed throughout TURKEY, at the baths, as a depilatory for men and women of all conditions.

Indepen-

All the wools of TURKEY are, in general, of an indifferent or of a bad quality, and little fit for the manufacture of fine plain cloths. Nevertheleſs, when they are picked and mixed with the fine wools of SPAIN and ROUSSILLON, the traders of LANGUEDOC find means to make with them firſt and ſecond *londrins* which they ſend to MARSEILLES, and thence to all the ſea-port towns of the LEVANT, where a conſiderable conſumption of them is made.

Camel's Hair.

In the cold countries of ASIA MINOR and of PERSIA, camels have, during the winter, a tolerable abundance of a fine, ſilky wool, which falls every year at the beginning of the ſummer. It is known by the French in trade, under the improper name of *laine de chevron.* The moſt eſteemed is brought from PERSIA by the caravans of ERIVAN, TIFLIS, ERZERUM, and TOCAT. There is ſome of three qualities: the black, the red, and the gray. The black is the deareſt, and the gray is worth only half the price of the red.

Some comes annually to MARSEILLES by way of ALEPPO, SMYRNA, and CONSTANTINOPLE. This laſt city expedites from eighty to a hundred bales weighing about three hundred pounds the bale. SMYRNA and ALEPPO ſend a quantity much more conſiderable.

This wool is employed in the manufacture of hats: it is purchaſed by all the European nations that trade to the LEVANT. The French, however, are thoſe who draw the moſt of it, and make of it the greateſt conſumption. The Engliſh employ but a ſmall quantity of the black, which they procure at SMYRNA.

This camel's hair muſt not be confounded with another wool longer, more ſilky, and finer which is found in PERSIA, and which is produced in plenty

which they make, with ſugar, delicacies in very great requeſt. From DAMASCUS are drawn dried apricots, very ſweet, which are alſo put into ragouts, or eaten boiled in the manner of ſtewed fruit. The dates of EGYPT and the piſtachio-nuts of ALEPPO are too dear to be within the purchaſe of the common people; the latter eſpecially are reſerved for children and for the wives of the rich.

I ſhall not here ſpeak of ſome fruits of little value, ſuch as the medlar, the cornil, and that of the *elæagnus* or Bohemian olive-tree, which come from the environs of the capital, or from the interior of ASIA MINOR.

The beſt cheeſe of the LEVANT is that of CANDIA: a great deal comes from BULGARIA, WALLACHIA, and the environs of the PROPONTIS; but it is, in general, bad and very little eſteemed, becauſe it is made without ſkill, and becauſe the cuſtom obtains of drawing the butter from all the milk which is intended for cheeſe. The *yougourt* or ſour curdled milk does not at all pleaſe ſtrangers: it is, nevertheleſs, a wholeſome food to which a perſon is ſoon reconciled, and which he then eats with pleaſure: it is found in abundance throughout the EAST.

There comes from the northern coaſt of the BLACK SEA, a prodigious quantity of caviare and ſalted fiſh. Caviare is nothing more than ſturgeon's ſpawn ſalted and packed up in large caſks. The conſumption which is made of it in CONSTANTINOPLE and in all the towns of the Ottoman Empire, is immenſe. It is the Greeks and the Armenians who eat the moſt, on account of their faſts and their lents. The Jews alſo live on it very frequently, becauſe this aliment is of little value. The inhabitants alſo make uſe of various ſalted fiſhes, ſome of which come from the BLACK SEA, and the others from the environs of PATRAS. Thoſe from the BLACK SEA are cut into thongs,

thongs, ſalted and dried; the others are whole, dried or placed in caſks with pickle. Excellent mullets ſalted are likewiſe brought from the Gulf of ENOS.

At CONSTANTINOPLE there is, under the ſuperintendance of the PORTE, a conſiderable eſtabliſhment in which a great number of workmen are employed in burning Arabian coffee, and in pounding it in large marble mortars. It is diſtributed in powder to the Turkiſh coffee-houſe keepers and dealers, according to the calls that they make for it. Private perſons alſo have the power, in conſideration of a trifling tax, of carrying coffee to this eſtabliſhment, in order to have it roaſted and pounded: but it is prohibited, under very ſevere penalties to mix with Mocha the WEST INDIA coffee, which is cheaper and leſs eſteemed than the other. This prevents not MARSEILLES alone from furniſhing the capital to the value of a million of our livres every year. True it is that in BULGARIA, BESSARABIA, and in the environs of the DANUBE, WEST INDIA coffee is preferred to that of YEMEN, and that a great deal of it paſſes into thoſe countries by the way of CONSTANTINOPLE.

MOCHA coffee is brought from ALEXANDRIA every year by the caravels of the Grand Signior: there arrives at the ſame time a tolerably large quantity of ſugar from EGYPT, which the common people prefer to that of the Europeans, becauſe it is cheaper, and ſweetens, it is ſaid, better than the other: it is not ſo well refined, and it preſerves a part of its moſcovade.

Combuſtibles; wood for carpenter's and joiner's work, and timber for ſhip-building.

All the wood uſed for fuel and cooking in the houſes of private perſons, in ſome manufactories and eſpecially for the baths, comes from the ſouth part of the PROPONTIS and the coaſts of the BLACK SEA, ſituated from the BOSPHORUS

PHORUS as far as SINOPE. It is more particularly oak that is burnt: for this purpoſe are alſo employed the holm green oak, the arbutus, and almoſt all the trees of which I ſhall preſently give the enumeration. From thoſe countries is drawn a greater quantity of charcoal, becauſe, in TURKEY, the inhabitants do not warm themſelves at the fire of chimnies, as I have ſaid elſewhere, but at that of tandours and mangals, for which charcoal only is required. The beſt is made of the oak and the holm, ſome is alſo made of the pine, the fir, and the arbutus.

The countries of which I have juſt ſpoken, covered with beeches, hornbeams, oaks, elms, walnut-trees, cherry-trees, pear-trees, pines, firs, cheſnut-trees, plane-trees, and lime-trees, furniſh the capital, in profuſion, with all the wood neceſſary for joiner's work and for the frame-work of the houſes which the inhabitants are accuſtomed to build with wood; and, indeed, the conſumption of it is prodigious in an immenſe city, where frequent fires induce the neceſſity of rebuilding continually the houſes which the flames have deſtroyed. There are daily arriving beams of oak, pine and fir, joiſts of oak and beech, for the frame-work, and planks of cheſnut-tree for the roofs of houſes; thin planks of walnut-tree, plane-tree, cherry-tree, pear-tree, lime-tree, oak, beech, aſh, pine, and fir for joiner's work; pump-pipes and troughs in elm, pine, fir, oak, &c. &c.

There alſo arrives from the ſame countries, a great deal of ſhip-timber for the arſenal, and ſpars for maſts and yards which are not inferior to thoſe of the north of EUROPE. The PORTE alſo draws excellent timber for ſhip-building from MOLDAVIA, which is ſhipped at GALAS. There is a great deal in POLAND and in South RUSSIA, of which the French government had made trials ſome time before the revolution, with which it had been ſatisfied, and of which it would, perhaps, have made uſe, notwithſtanding the clamours of ſome perſons intereſted in decrying it.

SINOPE

CHAPTER XX.

Of the droguemans and barataires.—Of the marriage of the merchants.—Of the French workmen ſettled in the Levant.—Of the caravan or carrying-trade in the Levant.

THE claſs of droguemans deſerves the moſt ſerious attention on the part of the French government, ſince it is on their probity, on their intelligence, and on their civiſm that depend the ſucceſs of the negociations which are intruſted to them and the favourable iſſue of the private affairs with the management of which they are charged. It has long been occupied about them without ever having attained the object which it had in view. It had imagined, perhaps, that education was to ſupply the place of other qualities, and that it was ſufficient for a man, in other reſpects intelligent, to know perfectly French, Turkiſh, and Arabic, to be a good drogueman. A preference was given to young men born in TURKEY, becauſe they had a better pronunciation of the oriental languages and a greater facility in ſpeaking them correctly. They were made to ſpend a few years in PARIS, in order to learn French, and the principles of the Turkiſh and Arabic languages. They were ſent to finiſh their ſtudies in a ſchool of Capuchins eſtabliſhed at CONSTANTINOPLE: thence they were ſcattered over the different ſea-port towns of the LEVANT, and thoſe who ſhewed the moſt capacity were afterwards ſent for to reſide with the ambaſſador.

Through an inconſiderate condeſcenſion, almoſt all the French droguemans had been taken from four or five families originally foreign, or for a long time paſt ſettled in the LEVANT. Theſe men, born in TURKEY, deſcended from Greek or Armenian mothers, ſhewed us, at the period of the revolu-

tion, how little reliance ought to be placed on perſons of their ſtamp. Although they were indebted to FRANCE for their education, their profeſſion, and their fortune, they heſitated not to go over into the ſervice of our enemies, and to tranſmit to them the knowledge which they had acquired among us. Some even have been accuſed of having carried off the depots, and having plundered the chanceries; all, in a word, proved, on this memorable occaſion, that, in the ſequel, the important functions of drogueman ought to be intruſted to none but real Frenchmen, to men born in the boſom of FRANCE, and brought up and educated in her manners and cuſtoms.

I do not think that one ought to aſſimilate the man born in TURKEY, of a father who has long ſince renounced his country, of a mother a ſubject of the Grand Signior, of a Greek or Armenian woman who deteſts our cuſtoms, and ridicules our manners to him who, born in FRANCE, ſhall have imbibed with his milk, ideas of probity, morality, and honour. Five or ſix years which the former ſhall have paſſed in PARIS for his education, will not be able to deſtroy the impreſſions that he ſhall have received in his youth. Accuſtomed to live with degraded men, ſurrounded by relations whoſe mind is tarniſhed by ſlavery, educated in the ſchool of vice, five or ſix years will not be ſufficient for elevating his mind, for engraving in an indelible manner in his heart the love of virtue, the thirſt of glory, and devotion to his country.

The reader will, perhaps, be ſurpriſed that I conſider a man born in the LEVANT as leſs fitted for the ſocial virtues, as leſs qualified to diſcharge functions which require probity and honour. In the firſt place, experience too frequently informs us that the drogueman, born and bred in TURKEY, makes no ſcruple of ſacrificing the intereſts of private perſons, and thoſe of the government, when he finds any advantage in ſo doing. It would be ſhameful to ſay, but perhaps not very difficult to prove, that the agent falls ſometimes into the ſnares which the drogueman ceaſes not to ſpread for him.

Too

Too frequently the latter has forced the other to ſilence by his manœuvres, or ſeduced him by the gold which he has had the addreſs to preſent to him opportunely and with caution.

Beſides, what can be expected from a man brought up in a country where the idea of probity and of duties is attached only to the exterior practices of a religious worſhip, where cuſtoms authoriſe a perſon to cauſe himſelf to be paid for the ſmalleſt ſervice, the ſmalleſt undertaking; where juſtice is ſold, where falſe evidence is paid for, where murder is redeemed, where every thing, in a word, is trafficked for without ſcruple, without ſhame, and without remorſe?

The embaſſy of CONSTANTINOPLE in no manner reſembles that of the other courts. In theſe the ambaſſador conducts affairs himſelf: he can develop all his talents; he can bring into action all the reſources of his genius: but, at CONSTANTINOPLE, he depends ſolely on his drogueman: if the man whom he employs be weak or unſkilful, the ambaſſador is no longer any thing more with the PORTE than a fool or a common man. If the drogueman be a knave, the ambaſſador is deceived: he ſees the cleareſt affairs take a perplexed turn, become confuſed, grow dark, and preſent every day new incidents: their progreſs, according to circumſtances, will be retarded by ſuppoſed obſtacles. Difficulties and embarraſſments will ariſe at every ſtep, till at length the ambaſſador diſguſted, will renounce his projects and abandon his undertakings.

If the drogueman, on the contrary, had the patriotiſm, the great talents, and the probity which we ſuppoſe in an ambaſſador, and if the latter, with a pure heart and a ſound judgment, had only ordinary abilities, the intereſts of the nation would be lodged in better hands. The progreſs of affairs would not be clogged: the PORTE would be ſeen to treat with confidence, loyalty, and frankneſs: the firmans for the puniſhment of delinquents, in the ſea-

ſerve the capital or the ſea-port towns of the LEVANT, GREECE, or SYRIA. Beſides, there would be no harm in his preſerving a foreign pronunciation: the Muſſulman has almoſt always for the European the reſpect with which he thinks that he may diſpenſe towards the man who, born in TURKEY, appears to him no more than a ſlave in diſguiſe.

An infinite number of advantages would reſult if the droguemanſhip were, in the LEVANT, the nurſery of the agents and commiſſaries of the commercial relations: there would neceſſarily be ſeen in them more zeal, more information, more attachment, and more probity *. Buſineſs in the ſea-port towns of the LEVANT would be better tranſacted and much more quickly terminated if the commiſſary were acquainted with the language of the country, if he had learned by a long experience, to know the Muſſulmans and all the ſubjects of the Grand Signior.

But, above all, it would be neceſſary to obtain from the PORTE that the French drogueman ſhould preſent himſelf in an European dreſs, in a particular uniform, and that he ſhould not be ſubject to the Turkiſh cuſtoms and ceremonial; for were the drogueman to continue to humble himſelf before a pacha, a mutſelim, a ſimple writer of the PORTE; were he always to be in fear of the baſtinade; were he obliged to offer them ſubmiſſively his head, to kiſs the ſkirt of their robe, how could he preſerve that independence of opinion, that inflexibility of character, that elevation of mind ſo neceſſary to a commiſſary in the LEVANT?

Current affairs of little importance would continue to be tranſacted by the droguemans of the country, creatures vile at this day, whoſe whole oc-

* Citizen RUFFIN, formerly drogueman, at this day *chargé d'affaires* of the Republic at the PORTE, would furniſh us, if it were neceſſary, with an inconteſtable proof that the intereſts of the nation could not ſometimes be placed in better hands.

cupation

are born from a Greek or Armenian woman a ſubject of the Grand Signior.

Independently of the woman, born in the LEVANT, preferring oriental indolence to the cares of a family, and conſuming in nonſenſe, in dreſs, and in trinkets, conſiderable ſums, ſhe has generally ſo little attachment and gratitude to him to whom ſhe is indebted for comfort and repoſe, that, following the example of the Muſſulman women, ſhe neglects nothing to purloin from him his ſavings and deprive him of the means of returning to his own country. The huſband, not being able to prevail on his wife to follow him, to renounce ſofas, vapour-baths, and cuſtoms which ſhe has contracted from her infancy, aſſumes by degrees the habits of the country. Idleneſs gets hold of him, old age takes him by ſurpriſe, and death carries him off: his family renounce for ever the mother-country. They would even ſoon forget it, did not their intereſt invite them to preſerve the protection which the father enjoyed.

Droguemans were not generally compriſed in this prohibition, becauſe they were, undoubtedly, expatriated for ever; while the merchant was likely to return to FRANCE after twelve, fifteen, or twenty years of labours, and bring back with him the fortune which he would not fail to make in the LEVANT when he conducted himſelf with intelligence and economy *.

On arriving at CONSTANTINOPLE and in the ſea-port towns of the LEVANT, we were very much ſurpriſed to find every where a great number of French workmen who had brought into theſe countries the arts of EUROPE, and who enjoyed, under the protection of the ambaſſador and the agents of the

* Young lads were ſent to the commercial houſes of the LEVANT at the age of fifteen or eighteen: the greater part were book-keepers at twenty-five: ten years were ſufficient for them to make a fortune which allowed them to return to FRANCE and there marry.

Republic,

to FRANCE, and if he refuſed to depart, he ought, without his having a right to complain, to be refuſed a protection which he does not merit.

The ignorance of the Orientals in the art of navigation, and, above all, the fear of Malteſe privateers, had in all times induced the Turks to make uſe of Venetian, Raguſan, and French veſſels for the conveyance of their merchandiſe from one town to another. They alſo had recourſe to the boats of the country; but they then preferred thoſe belonging to the Greeks who had obtained a paſs from the archbiſhops of SYRA and NAXOS.

The French had always in the ſeas of the LEVANT a great number of veſſels ſolely employed in carrying from one *echelle* * or ſea-port town to the other the merchandiſe with which they were laden, and from which they derived a tolerably advantageous freight. This carrying-trade, known in the South of FRANCE under the name of *caravane*, was a practical ſchool of navigation, and a rather conſiderable ſource of wealth to ſome towns of ancient PROVENCE. None were better acquainted with the ſeas of the LEVANT, uſed greater expedition in their voyages, and navigated with greater advantage for the traders, than the Provençal mariners. The navigation of the Venetians and Raguſans was extremely ſlow and timid: it preſented more dangers, becauſe they ſometimes ran their veſſels aſhore, by wiſhing, on the ſmalleſt ſign of bad weather, to gain a harbour or roadſtead.

Independently of the freights which yielded profits to all thoſe who had concurred in the conſtruction, purchaſe, and outfit of the veſſel, the captain never failed to enrich himſelf ſooner or later when he was active, intelligent

* *Echelle* comes from the Italian word *ſcala*, becauſe there exiſt in all the harbours and roadſteads of the LEVANT, in lieu of quays, ladders or wooden ſteps, which project into the ſea for the acceſs of veſſels and boats, and for facilitating the embarkation and debarkation of perſons and goods.

and frugal, and the ſailors themſelves, beſides their wages, gained a great deal by the ſmall parcels of goods which they carried from MARSEILLES, or which they made up in the LEVANT in going from one ſea-port town to another. This laſt-mentioned profit is very conſiderable: there is twenty-five per cent. to be gained by choice merchandiſe. The intelligent ſeaman who was well acquainted with the LEVANT, did not fail to avail himſelf of the circumſtance. This gain, repeated five or ſix times in the courſe of the year, ſoon doubled and tripled the capital. I have known a great number of ſailors who ſupported at MARSEILLES, at LA CIOTAT, at ST. TROPEZ, or at LA SEINE, a numerous family, and who, beſides, procured themſelves early in life a competence for the remainder of their days.

A veſſel was divided into twenty-four ſhares or kirats, and each ſhare might be ſubdivided according to the intentions of the ſhare-holders. The veſſel was to return at the expiration of three years. The profits were divided, according to the account of the captain, between the parties intereſted, after deducting the expenſes which had been incurred for the wages of the crew, and ſuch repairs and refitting as were found neceſſary.

For ſome time paſt it had been perceived that the ſhare-holders gained ſo much the leſs, as the captains enriched themſelves the more quickly; however, though diſhoneſty had found its way among the greater part of them, the moſt ſhameleſs even ſtill brought wherewith to keep up in the ſhare-holders the confidence which has always been placed in this kind of ſpeculation. The ſmall towns which I have juſt mentioned, had by this means acquired a conſiderable increaſe; there exiſted among the inhabitants a degree of comfort which was not to be ſeen in thoſe that were merely agricultural.

There were reckoned upwards of a hundred veſſels employed in this carrying-trade, generally manned each by eight or ten hands, including the captain

PERSIA from north to ſouth, and return to FRANCE by the PERSIAN GULF, BASSORA, BAGDAD, ALEPPO, and SYRIA. For ſix months, we had been in vain expecting that the envoy extraordinary of the Republic would be authorized to furniſh us with the means neceſſary for the execution of this journey. We felt the moſt eager impatience to travel over one of the parts of our globe the moſt intereſting, in regard to natural hiſtory, geography, ancient and modern hiſtory, commerce, &c. when we received an account of the detention of Citizen SEMONVILLE, on the neutral territory of the GRISONS, by one of the powers inimical to FRANCE.

It is very certain that the arrival, at CONSTANTINOPLE, of an ambaſſador of the Republic had mitigated the fate of the French, calmed their inquietude, rendered the PORTE more circumſpect, and relieved us from the ſuſpenſe in which we had been ſince our departure from PARIS. Citizen SEMONVILLE, with whom we had conferred ſeveral times at MARSEILLES, was acquainted with the views of the government with reſpect to us; he knew what was the primitive object of our miſſion; he was not ignorant of all the importance which the executive proviſional council attached to our political and commercial relations with the Ottoman Empire, and how many advantages they hoped, in certain circumſtances, to derive from a more intimate union with the Turks.

Receiving no anſwer to the different letters which we had addreſſed to the government, we reſolved to go and ſpend the winter at the DARDANELLES, or in the Iſlands of GREECE, far from the agitations and intrigues which the various ſhades of political opinions had produced among the French, and of which we had, in ſpite of ourſelves, been witneſſes. What determined us to take this courſe, was that we ſhould be thence enabled to return to FRANCE if we were recalled, or to repair to whatever country of the Ottoman Empire the government ſhould in future think it neceſſary to ſend us.

We

We received, from Citizen DESCORCHES, all the aſſiſtance that his precarious ſituation allowed him to afford, and we left CONSTANTINOPLE on the 6th of Frimaire, year II, (26th of November, 1794,) on board a Raguſan veſſel, freighted by a French merchant. The captain had orders to go and anchor in the Gulf of MUNDANIA, in order to take in there ſome bales of ſilk which were to be ſent to him from BURSA. Thence he was to ſet ſail for SMYRNA, and leave us, in paſſing, at the DARDANELLES, where we had an intention of making ſome ſtay.

The day was fine, the temperature of the air very mild, and the ſea perfectly ſmooth: the wind, which had been to the ſouth for eight days, had died away, and appeared likely to ſhift to the north: the captain took advantage of the firſt favourable breath in order to get under ſail. We departed from GALATA at noon, and came to an anchor at ſunſet, off the village of PRINKIPOS. The wind being faint and variable, we remained at this anchorage two days, during which we amuſed ourſelves in killing, from on board, ſome divers, in ſhooting, in the iſland, woodcocks and red partridges, and in gathering, for our collection, ſeeds, lichens, and a few late plants.

The wind having ſettled at north north-eaſt, we ſet ſail, at ſeven o'clock in the morning, for the Gulf of MUNDANIA: at ten, we were a league from the coaſt ſituated between this gulf and that of NICOMEDIA, and at noon we had doubled Cape BOUZ-BOURNOU. This coaſt is beautiful, diverſified, and rather mountainous; the ſoil appeared fertile and wooded; we perceived fields laid down in corn, a few flocks of ſheep, and ſeveral inconſiderable villages. After having doubled the cape, the wind till then favourable, was likely to be contrary to us; it obliged us to ply to windward a part of the night. We had ſome difficulty to get to an anchor half a league from the village of GHEMLEK, at two cables' length from the ſouth coaſt.

The anchorage, at the head of the gulf, is excellent; the anchors hold well every where; but, in winter, it is moſt prudent to approach the dock-yard ſituated to the ſouth, and to bring up at a cable and a half or two cables length from the ſhore; for if a veſſel came to an anchor on the ſide of the village, ſhe would be expoſed to a heavier ſea with a weſterly wind ſomewhat ſtrong, and might run the riſk of being driven on the rocks which ſkirt that coaſt, if her cables were too old or too weak.

The village, called *Kios* by the Greeks, and *Ghemlek* by the Turks, is ſituated in the form of an amphitheatre, at the head of the gulf, towards the north part: it is built on the ruins of the ancient *Cius*, and its population appears to be about two thouſand ſouls. The inhabitants, for the moſt part Greeks, are occupied in the culture of the land: few among them are mariners; ſeveral are employed againſt their will, as workmen, ſince the Turks have eſtabliſhed, a quarter of a league from that ſpot, a dock-yard for the conſtruction of ſhips of the line. Here, on our arrival, was an eighty gun ſhip almoſt finiſhed, the building of which had been directed by a French ſhipwright.

What determines the Turks to build part of their line-of-battle ſhips at the head of this gulf, is the facility of procuring ſhip-timber from the mountain, which borders on Olympus, from thoſe which lie between the Gulfs of Mundania and Nicomedia, and from thoſe ſituated to the ſouth of Lake Ascanius. Two ſpecies of oak and two ſpecies of fir are employed; the former ſerve for the keel, the ribs or frames, and the ſheathing; the latter likewiſe ſerve for the frames, and for all the pieces of the inſide of the veſſel.

The two ſpecies of oak which ſerve for ſhip-building, are the *hairy-cupped* oak *Plate XII.* and the *cluſter* oak. The former, which appears to be the

quercus

quercus cerris of LINNÆUS, is moſt common towards TOCAT, SINOPF, and TREBISOND. It is that which is brought to the arſenal of CONSTANTINOPLE from the ſouthern ſhores of the BLACK SEA, and which is moſt commonly employed for the frame-work of houſes. It is alſo met with in a great part of ASIA MINOR and SYRIA. It grows to a conſiderable height and furniſhes an excellent wood. Its leaves are deeply notched, ſmooth, of a dark green on their upper ſide, a little whitiſh and pubeſcent on their under. The ſcales of the cup are in elongated filaments, terminated in a point *.

The *cluſter* or *ſtalk-fruited* oak is more common than the other in the environs of MUNDANIA and CONSTANTINOPLE. It riſes to a great height, aſſumes a fine ſtem, and furniſhes a very hard wood. This tree, whoſe foliage differs little, at firſt ſight, from that of the *quercus cerris* or TURKEY oak, is nevertheleſs remarkable for its elongated fruit, borne on a ſlender pedicle, two or three inches in length †.

The Turks commonly make uſe of the *pinus pinea* or ſtone pine, and of a ſpecies which approaches to the *laricio* of the Corſicans. The former is common towards the maritime coaſts of ASIA MINOR and SYRIA; it alſo grows throughout all GREECE. It acquires a conſiderable ſize, and its wood, hard and reſinous, is frequently employed in the ſhip-building carried on at MUNDANIA, at the DARDANELLES, at MITYLENE, and at RHODES.

* *Quercus orientalis, latifolia, foliis ad coſtam pulchrè incifis, glande maxima, cupula crinita.* TOURNEFORT. Coroll. page 40.—*Id. Voyage au Levant.* Vol. i. page 240.
POCOCKE's Travels, vol. ii. tab. 86.
Chêne à cupule chevelue, *quercus crinita.* LAM. Encycl. Bot. vol. i. page 718. No. 4.

† *Quercus orientalis, glande cylindri, formi, longo pediculo inſidente.* TOURNEFORT. Corall. page 40.
Chêne à grappe, *quercus racemoſa.* LAM. Encyclop. Botan. Vol. i. page 715. No. 1.

The

The other pine which we found in plenty in the environs of OLYMPUS and in all the interior of ASIA MINOR, bears a ſtraight ſtem, and acquires a conſiderable ſize and height. Its ſeeds, which I brought to PARIS, have come up very well in the garden of Citizen CELS, a cultivator, and member of the National Inſtitute.

The Gulf of MUNDANIA, *PLATE III.* is deep, rather narrow, and ſurrounded by lofty mountains: the one to the north is almoſt entirely calcareous; it is partly ſchiſtoſe, partly formed of ſandſtone at its baſe. The coaſt ſituated to the ſouth preſents, all along the ſhore, a hard, mixed rock, containing pebbles of porphyry, granite, &c. At the head of the gulf is ſeen a ſandy beach by no means elevated, and beyond, a ſmall fertile plain, watered by a rivulet, which bore the name of the town; and by a little river, known formerly by the name of *HYLAS*. In this plain are cultivated various kitchen-garden plants, ſuch as the ſolanum melongena, the hibiſcus eſculentus, the water-melon, and ſeveral fruit trees, among which we remarked the pomegranate-tree and a ſpecies of apple-tree with oblong fruit, of a very agreeable flavour. We procured ſeveral ſlips of this apple-tree, and ſent them to CONSTANTINOPLE in order to be there raiſed in the garden of the palace belonging to the embaſſy, till we ſhould have it in our power to convey them ourſelves to FRANCE.

It is not to be doubted that this apple-tree would thrive in the ſouth of FRANCE, ſince the temperature of GHEMLEK is at leaſt as warm as that of our ſouthern departments, where it is known that the apple-tree vegetates badly, and yields only worm-eaten fruit.

The pomegranates of GHEMLEK are held in ſuch eſtimation, that the Greeks of that village are obliged to pay their perſonal impoſt with a certain quantity

quantity of this fruit, which they ſend every year to CONSTANTINOPLE for the harem of the Grand Signior.

Although the olive-tree is much propagated on the riſing grounds of the environs, yet the inhabitants are not accuſtomed to extract oil from its fruit. They prefer gathering the olive when it is perfectly ripe in the months of Brumaire and Frimaire, in order to ſalt it and afterwards ſend it to the capital, where the Greeks, Armenians, and Jews make, during the whole year, a great conſumption of this fruit. The preparation of theſe olives conſiſts in throwing marine ſalt on them, in a rather large quantity, and ſtirring them about ſo that they may be thoroughly impregnated with it. They are afterwards put, for ſome days, into baſkets, and are ſlightly preſſed in order to facilitate the draining of the aqueous part, after which they are kept in earthen jars.

Theſe olives are eaten without any other preparation: they are ſometimes ſeaſoned with ſalt, vinegar, and oil; they are alſo ſerved up with ſolanum melongena, pimento, celery, and fennel pickled in vinegar, together with anchovies, and other ſalted fiſhes.

At GHEMLEK, as well as in the environs of BURSA, the white mulberry-tree is cultivated in plenty for the rearing of ſilk-worms; but here this tree is not permitted to grow, as in our climates: it is kept as a dwarf, and every year are taken off all the branches which have ſhot forth the preceding year, in order to be given, with their leaves on them, to the ſilk-worms. After this cutting, the mulberry-tree puſhes forth freſh ſhoots which are to be cut the following year, as they are wanted.

Theſe trees are planted according to the quality of the ſoil, at the diſtance of three or four feet from each other. They are not grafted, becauſe it has,

no doubt, been diſcovered that the ſmaller and more ſavoury leaves of the wild mulberry-tree are of a quality ſuperior to thoſe which are large, ſucculent, and by no means ſubſtantial. It is not, in general, the practice to give them manure; ſome are watered; but all receive two hoeings, the one at the moment of their vegetation, and the other at the end of the ſummer. This tree, thus cultivated, laſts a great number of years: it forms one of the principal articles of wealth of the environs of BURSA, and ſupplies a great many manufactories of ſilk ſtuffs eſtabliſhed in that town for the uſe of the Orientals.

A field planted with mulberry-trees which may have been permitted to riſe and grow, will, doubtleſs, furniſh a more conſiderable quantity of leaves, than if it were planted with dwarf mulberry-trees, although the latter are much cloſer to each other; but if a cultivator conſider the facility that he has of procuring at pleaſure all the leaf of the latter by cutting the young boughs, and the inappreciable advantage of being able to ſhelter, by a wall or a hedge, the dwarf mulberry-trees from a frozen wind which attacks and ſo frequently cauſes the leaf to wither, in our ſouthern departments, at the moment of its budding, and, by that means, deprives of their nouriſhment the ſilk-worms already hatched, it will be found, perhaps, that this culture is not to be neglected, and that it ought to be adopted, at leaſt in part, in the South of FRANCE.

The Greeks are great eaters of land-ſnails; but they have not, like the Romans, the art of fattening them and making them a monſtrous ſize by an abundant and choice food. They content themſelves with picking them up in the fields and keeping them in their houſes, for ſome days, in earthen jars, in order to make them void all the food on which they have ſubſiſted. They boil them for ſeveral hours in water with a little ſalt, after which they make a ſauce ſtrongly ſeaſoned with garlic, parſley, and ſpices. We ſaw the

Greeks

Fig. 1. a.

Fig. 1. b.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

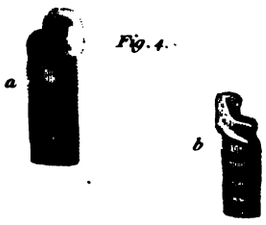


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

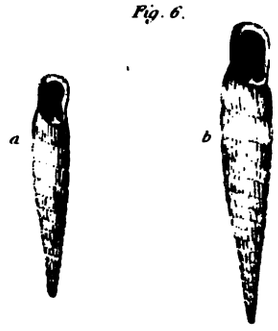


Fig. 7.

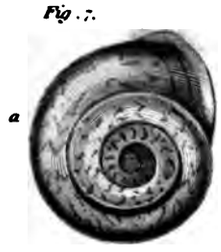


Fig. 8.

Fig. 9.

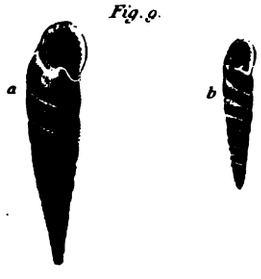


Fig. 10.

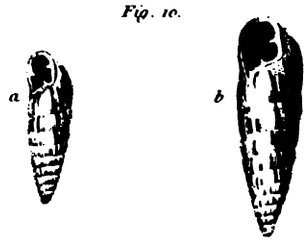


Fig. 11. a.

Fig. 12. a.

Fig. 12. b.

Fig 11. b.

Howard and del.

LAND SHELLS.

Greeks of CONSTANTINOPLE and GHEMLEK eat almoſt every ſpecies of European ſnails, but more particularly the beautiful *cheſnut* ſnail, of which we give the figure, PLATE *XVII. fig.* 1. *a. b.*

It is larger than the *pomatia* or vine-ſnail: its ſpire is leſs elevated, and its mouth leſs large. The whole ſhell is generally coloured by large zones of a cheſnut brown, interſected by other pale zones, of which the one that traverſes the middle of the laſt volute, is diſtinguiſhed for its whitiſh colour. The ſemi-elliptic mouth is in proportion. The lip is obtuſe: it forms, without, a little border, and is coated, within, by a brown enamel which increaſes towards the umbilical region. The bottom of the opening is as if milk-white, although tranſmitting the exterior zones*.

Among the land-ſhells which we found in the environs of GHEMLEK, we ſhall remark two *bulimi* which hitherto appear to us unknown to naturaliſts.

1. The *zebra* bulimus, *fig.* 10. *a. b.* It is ſmooth, whitiſh, more or leſs marked longitudinally with lines ſomewhat rufous. Its twelve volutes are a little convex. Its ſummit is obtuſe, and its umbilical foramen very perceptible. Its mouth is white: it has three teeth placed in the form of a triangle, nearly at equal diſtances †.

2. The *oval* bulimus, *fig.* 12. *a. b.* It is of a whitiſh colour, clearer towards the mouth. It is compoſed of ſix volutes a little convex and ſmooth. Its ſhape is that of an egg, ſhort and obtuſe. It is provided with a little *umbilicus*. Its mouth is oblong, oblique, narrowed by ſix teeth

* HELIX caſtanea *magna, exumbilicata, depreſſiuſcule globoſa, rufo-caſtanea, pallido zonata, collo labii obſoſi interno et umbilicali fuſco.*

† BULIMUS zebra *parvulus, oblongus, umbilicatus, lævis, albidus rufo lineolatus; aputura alba æqualita triplicique verſu tridentata.*

nearly equal, very diſtinct, three on each ſide. From this mouth, it approaches to the bulimus ſcaraboeus; it is not at all compreſſed, and its ſize is from three lines to three lines and a half *.

On the 20th of Frimaire (12th of December) the cold was ſharply felt for the firſt time; there fell five or ſix inches of ſnow, which brought a great many ſnipes into the neighbouring woods, and a vaſt number of ducks on the two little rivers and in the plain. The red partridge and the hare were every where in great plenty and of an exquiſite flavour. The captain, a determined ſportſman, had an excellent pointer, ſo that we lived well at little expenſe during our ſtay at GHEMLEK.

Citizen TOUSSAINT, a ſhip-builder, ſettled in the village, forgot nothing to make us paſs our time agreeably, and to procure us every information of which we ſtood in need. We learnt, with inquietude, that his zeal, for the ſervice of the PORTE, had ſeveral times expoſed him to being maſſacred by the Turks belonging to the country inland, who accuſed him improperly of being the cauſe of the oppreſſion which the government made them experience for the felling and the conveyance of the wood neceſſary for the conſtruction of the ſhip with which he was charged.

Theſe wretches, excited, perhaps, by the treaſurer, who hated a ſuperintendant whoſe manners and probity gave him umbrage, and by a few Greeks jealous of the preference which a ſtranger obtained over them, came one day to the number of upwards of fifty, in the intention of killing him. Citizen TOUSSAINT, robuſt and courageous, after having eſcaped from ſeveral among them, who aſſaulted him on his way from the dock-yard to the village, ſhut himſelf up in his houſe, mounted ſix blunderbuſſes in front of

* BULIMUS ovularis *minutus, ovatus, ſordide albidus, anfractibus ſex; vertice obtuſiſſimo; apertura oblique oblongiuſcula, ſexdentata.*

the

the entrance door, armed his wife and his ſervant, took himſelf a double-barrelled gun, two piſtols and a ſabre, placed a barrel of powder in the middle of the houſe, announced to theſe ferocious men, who attempted to burſt open the door, what were his means of defence, and the intention of burying himſelf under the ruins of his houſe if they were daring enough to enter it. Some attempted to get in at the windows; but every where they found a man who preſented death to them. The inhabitants of the village, through pity, attachment, or intereſt*, ſoon haſtened to his aſſiſtance: they had no great difficulty to diſarm, by their tears and their intreaties, men whom the courage of Citizen TOUSSAINT had already ſhaken, and who found it, no doubt, more prudent to retire to their habitations, than to hazard their life againſt him who defended ſo well his own.

Though the ſeaſon was not very proper for herborizing, we, nevertheleſs, found a few intereſting plants: we ſaw, in flower, on the hedges, the evergreen virgin's bower †, and towards the ſea-ſide a pretty daphne, which we met with again in SYRIA, in the interior of ASIA MINOR, and which TOURNEFORT had diſcovered in CRETE ‡. There was alſo on the riſing grounds a new ſpecies of *ſpartium* ||, a ſhrub which grows to the height of five feet, of

* The Turkiſh government, in caſe of murder, exacts a heavy fine from the inhabitants.

† *Clematis cirrhoſa.* LINN.—LAMARK, *Encyclopédie Botanique. Clématite.* No. 9.

‡ *Thymelæa Cretica, oleæ folio ſubtus villoſo.* TOURN. Corroll. page 41.
LAMARK, *Encyclop. Bot. Lauréole.* No. 23.
Daphne collina. SMITH. *Spicil.* Faſc. 2, page 16, tab. 18. *Aug.* Neapolitan Mezereon. T.

|| The ſtem while yet young of this *ſpartium* has three angles which are imperceptibly obliterated: it ſhoots forth a great number of branches, which are alternate, flexible, and of a whitiſh green. The leaves almoſt ſeſſile, are ternate, and deſtitute of ſtipules. The flowers, of a golden yellow and provided with bractes, are diſpoſed in cluſters at the top of the branches: to theſe ſucceed oblong pods truncated at their ſummit.

Citizen VENTENAT, who is publiſhing an account of the plants cultivated in the garden of Citizen CELS, has cauſed this ſpartium to be drawn, and intends to inſert it in one of his approaching faſciculi, under the name of *ſpartium parviflorum.*

which we ſent to the national garden of plants, and to Citizen CELS, ſome ſeeds that have come up very well.

We ſaw every where in the woods the andrachne and the arbutus loaded with flowers and fruit; the former, which feels the cold a little more than the other, grows not in the environs of CONSTANTINOPLE; we found it in plenty near the HELLESPONT, in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, on the coaſt of ASIA MINOR, and in SYRIA. It ſhoots up ſometimes to the height of a tree; but it more generally preſerves that of a ſhrub. Its trunk, ſmooth and red when the epidermis of the year has fallen, the beauty of its foliage, its cluſtered flowers, its fruits of a bright red—every thing concurs to render it one of the moſt elegant ſhrubs of the LEVANT. If the arbutus is inferior to it in point of port, ſtems, foliage, and flowers, it claims a ſuperiority for its fruits. Thoſe of the andrachne are ſmaller than thoſe of the arbutus: they have a ſouriſh and rough taſte, which does not equal the rather flat ſweetneſs of the other.

From the neighbouring mountains are perceived the Lake *ASCANIUS* and the fertile plain of NICEA, of which I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak elſewhere. It is reckoned two or three hours' walk from GHEMLEK to the lake, and ſeven or eight to go as far as NICEA. BURSA lies nearly at the ſame diſtance. Theſe places remind us of the ſecond battle fought near *CIUS*, in the year 193 of the chriſtian era, between LUCIUS SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS and PESCENNIUS NIGER, who diſputed with each other the empire of the Romans after the death of the virtuous PERTINAX, maſſacred by an undiſciplined and corrupt ſoldiery. They alſo remind us of the efforts made by the firſt Turkiſh emperors to get poſſeſſion of GHEMLEK*. OTHMAN, already maſter of almoſt all BITHYNIA, had attempted in vain to

* Some authors write *Kemluk*.

ſubdue

ſubdue BURSA and GHEMLEK: ORKHAN, his ſon, obtained the former without bloodſhed, and the latter after a year's ſiege.

Ships and boats which trade to BURSA, almoſt always repair to MUNDANIA, a ſmall town ſituated in the middle of the gulf, on the ruins of *MYRLEA* or *APAMEA*: it ſeldom happens that they come to GHEMLEK, becauſe the anchorage of MUNDANIA is very good, the communications between it and BURSA are more eaſy, more frequent, and the diſtance from it is leſs.

On the firſt of Nivoſe, (21ſt of December,) at ſun-riſe, the wind being to the eaſt-north-eaſt, we weighed anchor, and ſtood on for our deſtination. Before night we paſſed the little Iſland of *CALO LIMNO*, commonly known under the name of POPE'S ISLAND: it is by no means elevated, almoſt flat, tolerably fertile, as we were told, and inhabited only by Greeks. This is the ancient *BESBICOS*, ſituated three leagues from the coaſt, facing the river *RHYNDACUS*, at this day called *MIKALITZA*.

The wind freſhened a little, and became north-eaſt at ſun-ſet. At three or four o'clock in the morning, the captain, having judged that that we had paſſed the Iſland of MARMORA, hove to in order not to enter the channel by night. We accordingly found ourſelves, at break of day, to the north-weſt of that iſland, two leagues from the Iſlet of *GAÏDOURA*.

MARMORA has received its name from a white marble, a little veined with gray and bluiſh, which is thence extracted in great quantities. Although its grain is not fine, nor its colours beautiful and mixed, the Greeks, nevertheleſs, eſteemed it formerly and frequently made uſe of it: they diſtinguiſhed it by the name of CYZICUS marble, becauſe that peninſula furniſhed, perhaps, ſome of the ſame quality, or becauſe the town of the ſame name ſerved

as

as an emporium for it. Fragments of it are found among the ruins of almoſt all the ancient cities: pillars of it are ſeen in various places, and particularly in the moſques of CONSTANTINOPLE. At the preſent day this marble is worked only for the ſepulchral ſtones made uſe of by the Turks, the Armenians, and the Europeans: it is ſeldom employed in the conſtruction of houſes.

This iſland is about twelve leagues in circuit: it is lofty, mountainous, and tolerably fertile; it contains ſeveral towns or villages rather populous: it has two harbours by no means extenſive, ſituated to the ſouth. Veſſels ſurpriſed by a northerly wind ſomewhat ſtrong, go thither ſometimes to ſeek a ſhelter. The inhabitants have a few flocks of ſheep; they cultivate the vine, the olive-tree, and cotton, and gather various ſpecies of grain.

MARMORA formerly bore the names of *NEVRIS*, *ELAPHONNESUS*, and *PROCONNESUS**, on account of the quantity of ſtags which were there to be met with. I believe that none exiſt there at this day, as the woods are deſtroyed, and the mountains are almoſt naked.

On entering into the channel, we with pleaſure directed our looks towards the coaſt of EUROPE: we remarked a mountain parallel to the ſhore, at no great diſtance from the ſea, and beheld a fertile ſoil, tolerably well cultivated. The coaſt of ASIA fixed our attention more; it is flat, marſhy to beyond the GRANICUS, and extremely fertile in the places which are not inundated: the mountains that are diſcovered at ſome diſtance, are very wooded, and loftier than thoſe of EUROPE. We for a long time contemplated Mount OLYMPUS entirely covered with ſnow, and bad adieu to CONSTANTINOPLE, to the PROPONTIS, and to CYZICUS, which we regretted not having

* Nevris, νεβρος, the fawn of a doe; Elaphonneſus, from ελαφος, a ſtag, and from νησος, iſland; Proconneſus, from προ, πρωτος, which alike ſignify a young ſtag, and from νησος, iſland.

viſited,

viſited, and to all thoſe places ſo famous in hiſtory, and ſo worthy of that fame.

The objects to which our eyes were directed on both ſides of the channel, diſappeared with the greateſt rapidity: we had the wind right aft, and the ſtream of the waters accelerated our progreſs, ſo that, at ten o'clock in the morning, we found ourſelves off GALLIPOLI. This town, at preſent the moſt conſiderable of thoſe ſituated on the HELLESPONT, paſſed into the power of the Turks, under the reign of JOHN PALEOLOGUS, and was taken by SOLIMAN, ſon of ORKHAN. It contains within its walls about fifteen or ſixteen thouſand inhabitants, Greeks, Muſſulmans, and Jews; and is ſituated on a ledge of rocks which the waters have undermined. It projects, and forms a ſort of cape, at the extremity of which is placed a lighthouſe for guiding mariners, and pointing out to them the route which they are to take when they enter the channel by night. Another is ſeen for the ſame purpoſe, almoſt oppoſite, on the coaſt of ASIA. The channel grows narrow all at once off GALLIPOLI, ſo that it is not a league in width. The ſea forms a cove to the ſouth of the town, which ſerves as a harbour for boats which come and anchor there, as well as for ſhips thwarted by the wind.

The mountain, of which I have before ſpoken, has imperceptibly ſunk, and gives place to hills deprived of culture and of all ornament. That of ASIA, on the contrary, has drawn nearer and preſents a natural landſcape of the greateſt beauty.

LAMPSACUS, off which we found ourſelves almoſt immediately, poſſeſſes a charming ſoil, extremely fertile, and well watered. This town, formerly much more conſiderable than GALLIPOLI, was famous for its gardens, its vineyards, and the goodneſs of its wines, for its temples, and, above all, for the worſhip which the inhabitants paid to the god PRIAPUS. It is no longer

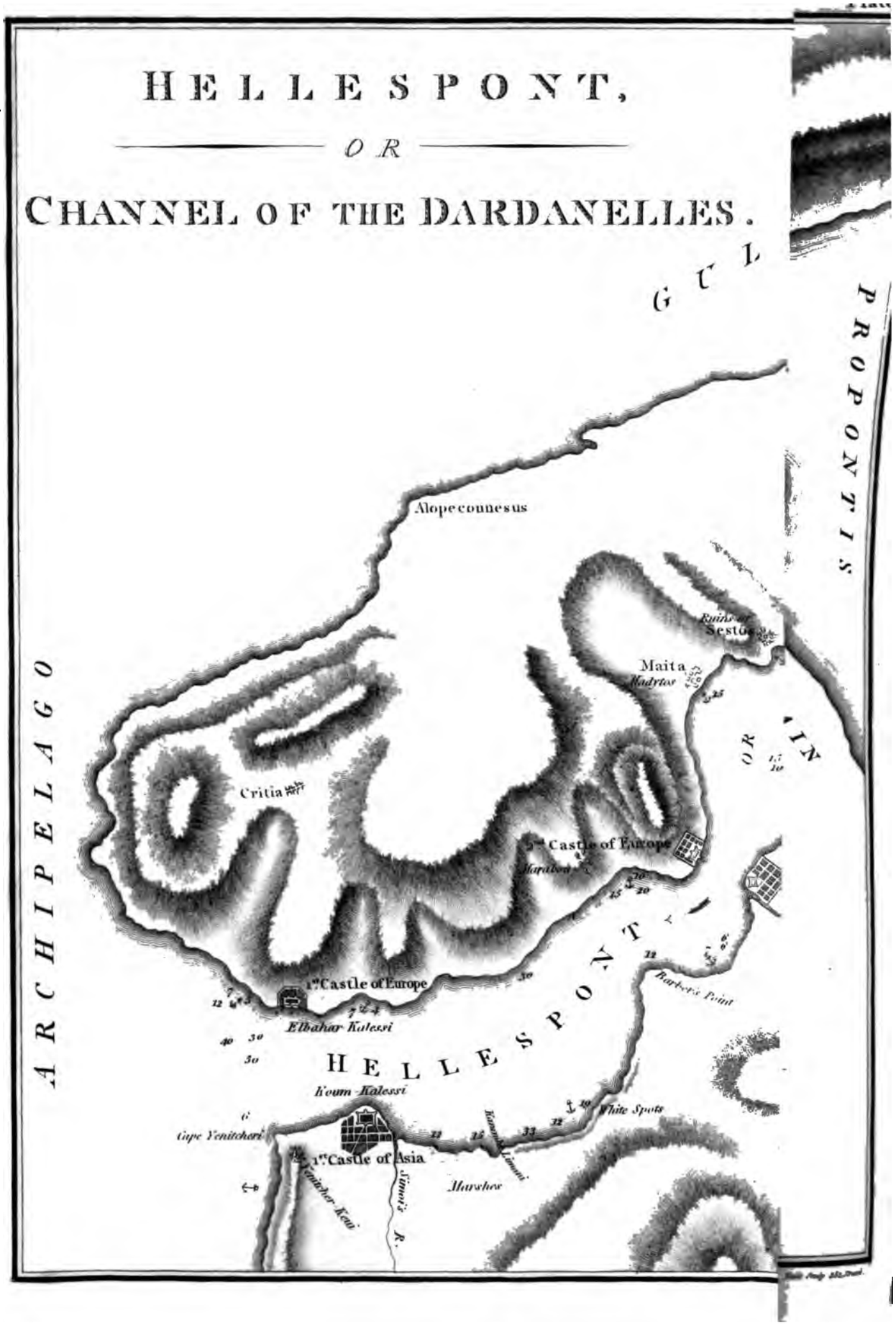
any thing at this day but a mean village, inhabited by ſome Greeks and ſome Turks: it ſtill preſerves a few vine-plots on the riſing grounds in the neighbourhood; but its fine gardens have diſappeared: on the ruins of its temples, has been erected a moſque, and the worſhip paid to the God preſerver of the Univerſe, is replaced by offerings to the *Panayia*.

As far as the Point of Nagara, on which are ſtill to be remarked the ruins of Abydos, the Helleſpont preſents nothing remarkable but the fertile and verdant hills by which it is bordered, and a few vallies more or leſs cultivated. Although the diſtance from Lampsacus to Abydos is alſo upwards of fifteen miles, our progreſs was ſo rapid, that we had ſoon cleared that ſpace, and were able, about one o'clock in the afternoon, to bring up at the excellent anchorage which lies to the ſouth of this cape. We haſtened to land our baggage, and to proceed to the town, nearly two miles diſtant. Citizen Bermond, vice-conſul of the Republic, had been expecting us for ſome days; he had had the civility to have apartments prepared for us in the conſul's houſe: he was ſo kind as to accompany us in our excurſions, and neglected nothing to render the ſtay that we made at the Dardanelles as agreeable as uſeful.

HELLESPONT,

OR

CHANNEL OF THE DARDANELLES.



CHAPTER II.

Stay at the Dardanelles.—*Deſcription of the* Helleſpont; *and of the towns ſituated on its ſhores.—Productions and commerce of thoſe countries.*

THE HELLESPONT, or Sea of HELLE, is thus named becauſe that princeſs, daughter of ATHAMAS, king of THEBES, wiſhing to conceal herſelf, with her brother PHRYXUS, from the perſecutions of INO, their mother-in-law, had the misfortune to be there drowned. It is ſaid that, mounted with her brother on a ram covered with a golden fleece inſtead of wool, ſhe ventured to croſs the channel which ſeparates THRACE from TROAS; but when ſhe found herſelf in the middle of the waters, ſhe was ſo terrified at the danger to which ſhe had imprudently expoſed herſelf, that ſhe fell into the ſea, where ſhe met with the death which ſhe was endeavouring to avoid. The Greeks, touched by her misfortunes, in order to eternize the remembrance of this event, gave the name of the unfortunate princeſs to the arm of the ſea in which ſhe periſhed.

This ſea is more known at the preſent day by the name of the *Strait* or *Channel of the* DARDANELLES, becauſe the modern town at which we had juſt landed, is called by the Europeans, the DARDANELLES; a name which has been tranſmitted to it from the ancient *DARDANA*, *DARDANIA*, or *DARDANUS*, ſituated a few miles lower down; for, according to the ancient geographers, it was eight miles to the ſouth of ABYDOS, towards Cape *TRAPEZA*, commonly diſtinguiſhed by the name of *BARBER'S CAPE*. The river RHODIUS, on which the modern town is built, flowed at nearly an equal diſtance from ABYDOS and DARDANUS.

In this town are reckoned ſcarcely four thouſand inhabitants, Greeks, Muſſulmans, and Jews. Its poſition is agreeable, its territory is fertile, and its productions are very diverſified. To the north-eaſt, is ſeen a riſing ground covered with vines; to the ſouth, a plain terminated by a mountain by no means lofty: this plain extends to the eaſt, and then forms a valley extremely fertile, watered by the RHODIUS. At the extremity of this valley are found indications of a volcano: among others are to be ſeen conſiderable blocks of granite, the quartzoſe part of which is almoſt entirely converted into glaſs. A little farther on, is a fertile and circular bottom, of ſmall extent, ſurrounded by mountains covered with wood.

In the territory of the DARDANELLES are cultivated cotton, ſeſamum, various kitchen-garden plants, the vine, the olive-tree, and ſeveral ſpecies of fruit-trees. The orange-tree begins to grow here in the open air; and a tolerably large quantity of grain is here collected. The neighbouring mountains furniſh the *velanida** and gall-nut uſed in trade.

The waters of the HELLESPONT have a rapid ſtream oppoſite the caſtle, ſituated at the lower end of the town, while they are tranquil or run up into the cove, which lies at the upper part, and which ſerves as a harbour for the ſmall craft that trade brings thither, as well as to veſſels and to ſhips of war that ſometimes come to an anchor there. The captains of theſe two laſt-mentioned prefer, however, both in winter and ſummer, the anchorage of NAGARA, becauſe they are more ſheltered from the north wind, and becauſe its bottom is better.

* This is the name given by the modern Greeks to the cup of the acorn produced by the *quercus Ægilops*. In dyeing, the Orientals, the Italians, and the Engliſh, employ this cup, as well as the gall-nut of the *quercus infectoria*.—*Tranſlator*.

The

The HELLESPONT, at firſt ſight, reſembles a majeſtic river quietly carrying its waters to the ocean; but, confined within its bed, it is never known to paſs the limits which Nature has traced for it. Here are not ſeen thoſe devaſtating overflowings to which countries croſſed by great rivers are too frequently expoſed. Neither are there to be met with, in the environs, thoſe infectious marſhes, thoſe ſtagnant waters, ſo common towards the mouth of rivers: here the lands are cultivated, or are naturally covered with verdure even cloſe to the water. And if the ſhores of the HELLESPONT are not fecundified by canals of irrigation, if the waters depoſit not on the lands a fertilizing mud, the communications which it eſtabliſhes between the PROPONTIS and the BLACK SEA on the one ſide, the MEDITERRANEAN and the OCEAN on the other, the advantages which agriculture and induſtry can derive from the facility of conveyance, are benefits greater, perhaps, than thoſe which would reſult, to theſe countries, from the vicinity of a great river.

The RHODIUS takes its ſource to the north-eaſt of Mount IDA: it receives a few rivulets which flow from the neighbouring mountains, and, after having traverſed a ſpace of twelve or fifteen miles, it diſcharges itſelf into the HELLESPONT, by the ſide of the caſtle of the DARDANELLES. Its waters, by no means abundant in ſummer, are kept back and employed in the irrigation of the lands; but in winter, ſwelled by the rains which are frequent in that ſeaſon, it occupies a bed ſufficiently large to deſerve the name of river. The inhabitants of the DARDANELLES have conſtructed a wooden bridge at ſome diſtance from its mouth, in order to be able to croſs at all times to the left bank, and repair to the fields that they cultivate beyond it.

Behind the caſtle, between the town and the river, is a tolerably extenſive walk, naturally turfed and ſhaded by very tall plane-trees. Although this place is very cool and very agreeable, it is ſcarcely at all frequented by the in-

habitants of the town: one there meets with none but Europeans, whom commerce and curioſity bring into this country.

Three miles from the DARDANELLES, in aſcending towards the north, are found, on a ſpot reſembling a plain of a triangular figure, a few veſtiges of the ancient ABYDOS. The ground is elevated and covered with heaps of rubbiſh, among which are to be diſtinguiſhed bricks, fragments of potter's ware, pieces of granite, and marble of every ſpecies. A few ſhapeleſs maſſes of maſonry are perceived along the anchorage, ſituated to the ſouth-weſt. On the neighbouring coaſt is ſeen a road deeply dug, by which the inhabitants of ABYDOS repaired to a fertile plain that lies to the eaſt. The city occupied the ſouthern part of the triangular ſpot which I have juſt mentioned, and extended to part of the riſing ground that faces the channel.

There is not, on the ſhores of the HELLESPONT, a ſituation more agreeable and more advantageous than this for a town; for, independently of the view of the whole channel, of its two ſhores, and even of TENEDOS*, beſides the means which there would be to fortify it, being ſurrounded by the ſea and an inſulated hill, the anchorage is unqueſtionably the moſt ſpacious and the moſt ſafe of the HELLESPONT; and if the Turks really wiſhed to prohibit the entrance of the PROPONTIS to an enemy's fleets, there would be no place more proper for the erection of a battery, than the point of NAGARA; for ſhips always approach this point in ſpite of themſelves, on account of the ſalient angle which the land makes in this place. Beſides, this part of the channel is almoſt as narrow as that of the ſecond caſtles.

Two leagues to the ſouth-eaſt of ABYDOS, is ſeen SILLEIS, a ſmall rivulet which would no longer be thought of, did it not indicate the poſition of

* The gently-riſing ground of TROAS allows the Iſland of TENEDOS to be perceived.

ARISBA,

ARISBA, near which the army of ALEXANDER encamped, while that conqueror was occupied in viſiting the ruins of TROY.

Geographers are not agreed reſpecting the poſition of the ancient DARDANUS: ſome place it on Cape TRAPEZA; and others, at the foot of Mount IDA. I found not in the environs of that cape, commonly called *BARBER's CAPE*, any veſtige, any trace of a town; neither did I perceive rubbiſh, bricks, nor heaps of ſtones. The very ground, uneven, hilly, by no means fertile, and deſtitute of water, appears little calculated for the ſituation of a town of any conſequence. I ſuſpect, with the latter, that it ſtood inland; for in the times when people could appreciate all the advantages of a maritime trade, and even ſometimes receded from the ſea-ſhores, in order to be leſs expoſed to the incurſions of pirates, they muſt have preferred ſuch ſituations as placed the inhabitants within reach of the fields which they cultivated, and from which they derived all their riches.

Beyond the cape, the coaſt is white and chalky, which has occaſioned it to be given by mariners the name of *WHITE SPOTS:* here it is that veſſels, waiting for a favourable wind for aſcending the HELLESPONT, generally anchor.

We were not more fortunate in our ſearch for *OPHRYNIUM*, which is placed between DARDANUS and RHŒTEUM: as for the latter, it appears, that it is ſituated between the promontory of that name and the tomb of AJAX, to judge of it from the fragments of potter's ware and bricks which are there to be found; for it is well known, that nothing indicates in a more certain manner the poſition of ancient cities. Monuments crumble away, the materials are carried off, the plough levels the ſoil; fragments of bricks and potter's ware alone reſiſt time and the hand of man.

When

When you have paſſed the tomb of AJAX, ſituated on an eminence, you ſee even beyond the SIMOÏS, a low, ſandy plain near the ſea, very fertile in proportion as you recede from it. But before we travel over TROAS, and viſit thoſe places which hiſtory has rendered ſo famous, let us return to the HELLESPONT, and tranſport ourſelves to the coaſt of EUROPE.

According to the poets and the greater part of the Greek hiſtorians, SESTOS was ſituated oppoſite to ABYDOS, at the moſt narrow part of the channel. Thoſe two towns are become famous from the loves, real or fabulous, of LEANDER and HERO, whoſe end was ſo unfortunate. LEANDER lived at ABYDOS: HERO was at SESTOS, a prieſteſs of VENUS. Too confident, no doubt, in his ſtrength and ſkill, LEANDER, in order not to be diſcovered, for a long time, ſwam acroſs the HELLESPONT, guided by a torch which his miſtreſs lighted on the top of a tower: but, in a tempeſtuous night, LEANDER, having too imprudently committed himſelf to the waves, could not reach the other ſhore, and was unfortunately ſwallowed up by the agitated waters. HERO, in her deſpair, threw herſelf into the ſea, in order to ſhare the fate of her lover.

PROCOPIUS places SESTOS in the cove the neareſt to ABYDOS: he even adds, that the emperor JUSTINIAN cauſed a citadel to be built near that city: the remains of this citadel are ſtill to be ſeen cloſe to the ſea-ſhore. The firſt courſes of maſonry in hewn-ſtone, on which the wall was erected, are there to be diſtinguiſhed. This wall forms a talus of about fifteen inches. The tower, ſituated at the extremity of the citadel, is round and in a great meaſure deſtroyed: the remains of an arch, which formed the firſt ſtory, are ſtill to be perceived. Its walls, as well as thoſe of the citadel, are built with ſeveral courſes of rough, unhewn ſtones, and ſeveral courſes of bricks laid flat the one on the other in three or four rows. On the declivity of the hill, the walls of the ancient city may very eaſily be traced. Within the

enclosure of these walls, lie heaps of stones, among which are to be distinguished bricks, fragments of potter's ware, pieces of granite and marble. It is probable, that this rubbish has been heaped up for the purpose of clearing the ground, and putting it into a state of cultivation; and that, in this manner, the remains of the monuments that might there be met with have been destroyed.

Four miles from SESTOS, in ascending the channel, is another harbour, near which is seen only a simple habitation of dervises, occupied by three or four Mussulman monks. This anchorage, one of the best of the whole channel, is little known to most of the mariners who frequent the seas of the LEVANT, because they prefer, with reason, that of NAGARA as more within reach of MAÏTA and the DARDANELLES, where they procure such provisions as they are in want of.

Facing ABYDOS, a short league to the south-west of SESTOS, is seen at the head of an extensive and not very deep cove, the village of MAÏTA, built on the ruins of *MATYDOS*. Some remains of old masonry are still to be found on a hillock, which overlooks the modern town situated on the sea-shore. At a little distance from MADYTOS was formerly *CŒLOS PORTUS*, a small town which was witness of the sea-fight that took place between the Athenians and the Lacedæmonians, a fight in which the latter were conquered and obliged to give up to their rivals the empire of the HELLESPONT.

The territory of MAÏTA, although by no means fertile, furnishes some fruits, a little corn, some wine, and, in particular, cotton. Most of the inhabitants are seamen: the others apply themselves to the culture of the lands and to the manufacture of sail-cloth, for which they employ the cotton.

cotton that they gather, and a ſmall quantity which they purchaſe, either at the DARDANELLES or at GALLIPOLI.

Two leagues from MAÏTA, facing the DARDANELLES, at the moſt narrow part of the channel, is ſeen a village by no means conſiderable, known by the name of the *SECOND CASTLE OF EUROPE*. The citadel which ſtands below the village, on the ſea-ſhore, and of which TOURNEFORT has given a drawing, is no better calculated for defending at this day the entrance of the channel, than that of ASIA: neither the one nor the other would not long hold out againſt ſhips of the line that might attack them. Their monſtrous guns, without carriages, loaded with bullets of marble or granite, of about two feet in diameter, would ſoon be abandoned by gunners, who could neither manage them, nor point them, nor even load them with facility.

This village, ſituated at the foot of a hill rather lofty, affords to the inhabitants of the DARDANELLES a very agreeable landſcape, embelliſhed almoſt always by the ſhips and boats which are inceſſantly aſcending the HELLESPONT, or making ſail for the ARCHIPELAGO.

The inhabitants of this village are leſs induſtrious than thoſe of MAÏTA: the greater part of them are Turks attached to the duty of the citadel, or employed in carrying over in boats the perſons who are repairing from the one town to the other. It is the Greeks who apply themſelves more particularly to the culture of the lands. I ſaw, for the firſt time, in their territory, hives ſhut up in buildings more or leſs ſpacious, according to the quantity of bees that were there reared. The object of this building in maſonry, carefully ſhut, is to ſecure thoſe inſects from the cold during the winter, from the heat during the ſummer, and at all times from the hand of man, far more dangerous than the inclemency of the ſeaſons.

A league from the ſecond caſtle of EUROPE, on deſcending the HELLESPONT, is perceived on a height another dwelling of derviſes, inhabited by a few Turkiſh monks, whoſe function conſiſts in making ſignals for the veſſels and ſhips of war which enter the channel, and in diſplaying from time to time the Ottoman flag. Thence to the firſt caſtle of EUROPE, the coaſt is uncultivated, and preſents nothing remarkable, except a tomb which is ſuppoſed to be that of HECUBA, placed above the promontory of *CYNOSSEMA*, and the remains of an aqueduct, which probably brought the water neceſſary for the inhabitants of *ELÆUS*, a town formerly ſituated at the entrance of the HELLESPONT, on the coaſt of EUROPE.

On the ruins of ELŒUS, at this day is ſeen a Turkiſh village, called *ELBAHAR-KALESSI*, at the foot of which is built the firſt caſtle of EUROPE. To the weſt of this caſtle, is ſtill ſeen the tomb of PROTESILAUS, king of THESSALY, killed by HECTOR, and a few veſtiges of a temple to which his devotion to his country's cauſe had entitled him. PROTESILAUS was the firſt of the Greek heroes who ſet his foot on the coaſt of ASIA, although the oracle had thrice announced, that the man who firſt landed on the Trojan ſhore, would loſe his life.

Thence to CRITIA, a Greek village ſituated to the north, up the country, may be reckoned about two hours' journey. It is well known, that there was a town of the ſame name in the Cherſoneſus of THRACE, at a little diſtance from the ſea-ſhore, in the ſame place, probably, where the modern village is built. You arrive there by an uneven ground, and a ſmall plain, the earth of which is partly whitiſh and cretaceous.

We had no where ſeen the red partridge ſo common as in this plain and in the groves of pine which ſtand in the environs. The hare is here in equal plenty and very well taſted. During the winter, a great many woodcocks

are found in the uncultivated, ſhaded, and moiſt vallies. Neither is the wild boar ſcarce: as the latter does a great deal of injury to culture, and is particularly fond of grapes, the Greeks hunt it ſometimes and kill a great number: but the quadruped the moſt common in all theſe countries, is the jackal, of which I ſhall frequently have occaſion to ſpeak.

In the environs of the DARDANELLES, I was one day witneſs of the manner in which the Greeks ſhoot partridges, leſs with a view of procuring themſelves an excellent article of game, than for the purpoſe of diminiſhing the number of the enemies of their crops. This ſport conſiſts in carrying a gun and a ſort of banner rolled up, ſtriped with very lively colours, ſomewhat ſimilar to a harlequin's jacket. As ſoon as they perceive at a diſtance a covey of partridges, they unroll the banner, and approach by degrees thoſe birds till they have got within gun-ſhot of them. The fowler thruſts into the ground the ſtaff of the banner, and, through an aperture made on purpoſe, he fires on the partridges, which are ſo terrified, that they ſquat and ſuffer themſelves to be killed, the one after the other, rather than fly away. The greateſt difficulty the fowler experiences, is to perceive them; for that purpoſe, he turns round them, conſtantly concealed behind the banner, and as ſoon as he perceives one of them, he fires at it, and goes on in the ſame manner till he has deſtroyed the whole covey. This ſport is practicable, as is ſeen, only in cultivated plains, and on lands not much covered with herbage and buſhes.

The portion of land compriſed between the HELLESPONT and the Gulf of SAROS, known by the name of the Cherſoneſus or peninſula of THRACE, is little more than from three to four leagues in its greateſt breadth: it is nearly twenty from the ſouthern extremity to the long wall, *MACRONTICHOS*, which ſeparates the peninſula from the continent. At the end of this wall, towards the PROPONTIS, was the town of the ſame name, on which there now

now remain only a few habitations that the harbour maintains. Inland, ſtands the village of *Hexamila*, which has preſerved the name that was given it, on account of the diſtance that there is from the one ſea to the other.

The land of this peninſula is uneven, hilly, and not ſo good, in general, as that of the coaſt of Asia. There are, however, a few vallies of the greateſt fertility, and ſome plains tolerably productive. The lands are chalky in ſome places: the hills and riſing grounds are all calcareous: here are to be found ſome foſſil ſhells, to which there are none analogous belonging to the ſeas of Europe. In the environs of Maïta, is ſeen, at the foot of hills, a ſoft ſand-ſtone, or a pure ſand; and in the cove of Sestos is remarked, at upwards of twenty feet above the level of the ſea, a tolerably thick bank of marine conchylia, the ſpecies of which all belong to the Mediterranean. This bank formerly extended, no doubt, into Asia, for, beyond the hill of Abydos, the plain affords in a rather large quantity the ſame ſhells that we had ſeen in this bank *.

Different French, Italian, and Engliſh merchants, have ſeveral times attempted to eſtabliſh commercial houſes at the Dardanelles; but they have never been able to ſucceed in this: they had, undoubtedly, not remarked that the merchants of Constantinople, preſerving over them the advantage of reſiding in the capital, where the conſumption is very conſiderable, were equally within reach of furniſhing the articles of which the towns ſituated on the Hellespont are in want, and of there making, with no leſs facility than economy, the purchaſe of thoſe which are demanded of them. The Jew, Greek, and Armenian traders, through whoſe hands it is neceſſary to paſs in every caſe, are very glad to preſerve the connexions which they have with the merchants of Constantinople, whom they conſider,

* *Oſtrea edulis, venus chione, venus cancellata, ſolen vagina, buccinum reticulatum, cerinthium vulgatum*, &c.

beſides, as better ſtocked, and better enabled to make the payments which they indicate to them.

The articles of exportation which the towns ſituated on the HELLESPONT can furniſh, are:

Two or three hundred bales of cotton of various qualities.
Two hundred quintals of coarſe ſpun cotton.
A great many coarſe cotton cloths.
Three or four hundred bales of wool of inferior quality.
A great quantity of TURKEY leather or Morocco, prepared in the DARDANELLES and at GALLIPOLI.
Three or four hundred quintals of galls.
A more conſiderable quantity of *velanida*.
Twelve or fifteen thouſand hare-ſkins.
Sixty or eighty quintals of wax.
Very little madder root.

MAÏTA and the DARDANELLES ſend a little wine to the capital, and alſo ſell ſome to the captains of the veſſels that may chance to anchor in their harbour or in the environs. The latter find at all times, at the DARDANELLES, biſcuit, new bread, poultry, eggs, herbage, different vegetables, and other proviſions of which they may ſtand in need during their voyage.

At the DARDANELLES is manufactured a vaſt deal of coarſe potter's ware, the greateſt part of which is ſent to CONSTANTINOPLE. Although its quality is very good, and the varniſh adheres well, one is ſurpriſed to ſee on it flowers, and other ornaments, which are effaced by time, and are not incorporated with the varniſh.

The

The Republic of VENICE was formerly the only power that had a conſul of its nation at the DARDANELLES. FRANCE, ENGLAND, GERMANY, RUSSIA, and the other maritime powers, had there only agents of the country, Jews or Greeks, who diſcharged the functions of conſul, if not with intelligence and probity, at leaſt with the greateſt zeal, by means of a barat of drogueman, which placed them under the immediate protection of an ambaſſador, and afforded them the enjoyment of all the privileges granted to Europeans. But within theſe few years, the French government has here eſtabliſhed a vice-conſulate, hoping that a national agent would protect more efficaciouſly the veſſels which are obliged to make a ſtay here; that he would furniſh, beſides, to the ſhips of war that anchor at the WHITE SPOTS, the aſſiſtance of which they might be in want, and that he would tranſmit to the ambaſſador all the news which his ſituation enables him to gather.

Ships of war belonging to the powers in amity with the Ottoman PORTE, enter the channel without obſtacle, and caſt anchor at the *WHITE SPOTS* and off *BARBER'S POINT*; but they cannot, in any caſe, paſs the ſecond caſtles without an expreſs permiſſion of the ſultan. Merchant-veſſels may ſtand on if the wind permit, and proceed directly to CONSTANTINOPLE, or to any port of the PROPONTIS that they may think proper; but, on their return, they are obliged to anchor at NAGARA or at the DARDANELLES, in order to be there viſited. It is generally the day after their arrival that this viſit takes place: its object is, to aſcertain whether all the duties have been paid at the capital; whether prohibited goods have not been ſhipped without permiſſion; or whether there are not on board runaway ſlaves or ſubjects, not Muſſulmans, who would wiſh to quit their country.

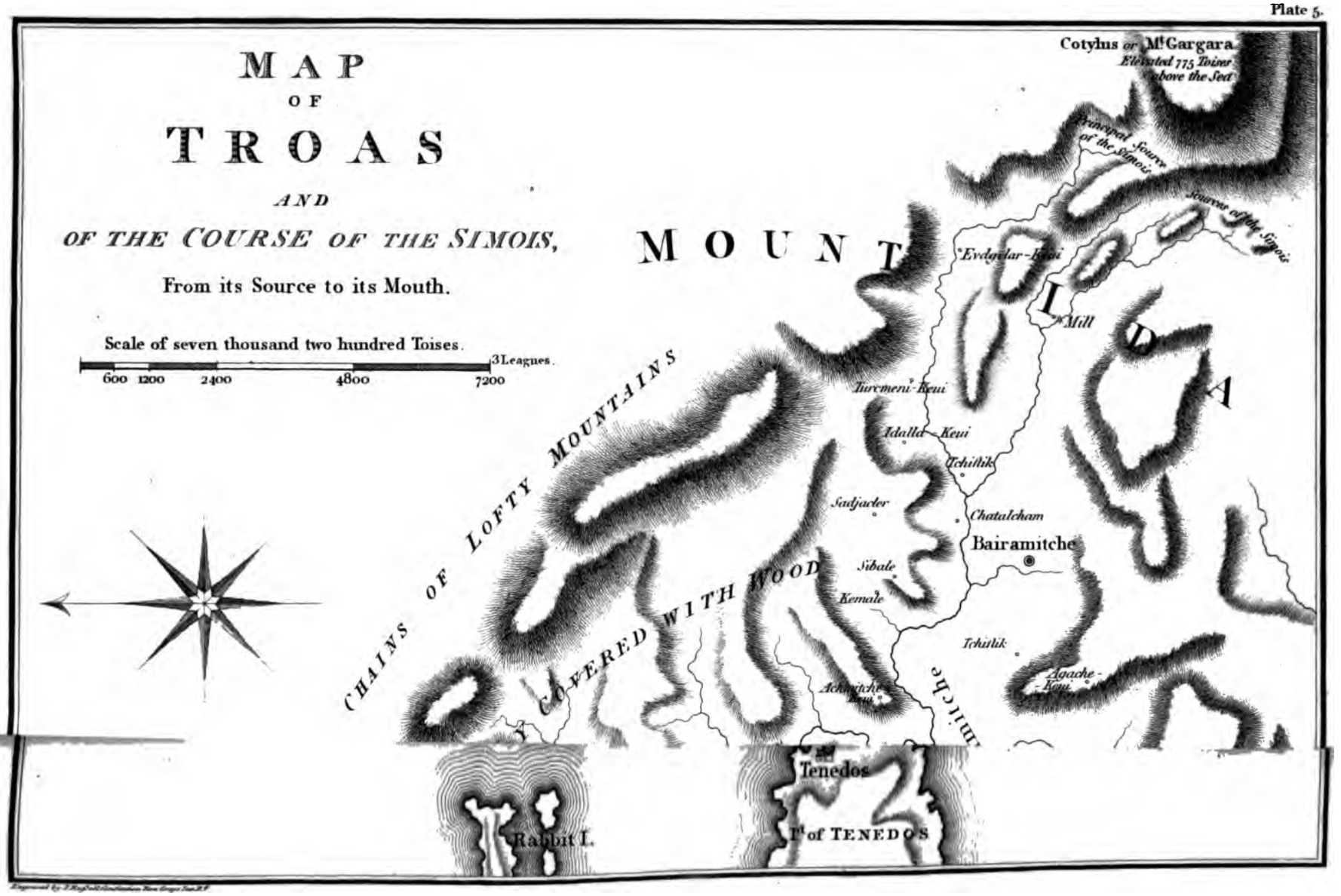
CHAPTER

CHAPTER III.

Excurſion to Troas.—*Deſcription of that country.—Sketch of its population and productions.—Of the oaks which produce the gall-nut and the velanida uſed in trade.*

After having viſited, ſounding as we went, almoſt all the coaſts of the Hellespont, and having penetrated, in various points, into the interior of the country, in order to aſcertain its productions, we haſtened to viſit Troas, and caſt our eye over places which the genius of the Greeks and Romans have rendered ſo famous. We embarked at the Dardanelles on the 10th of Pluvioſe (29th of January) on board a Turkiſh caïque, with a northerly wind rather freſh, and in two hours we reached the firſt caſtle of Asia. We immediately cauſed our mattreſſes and our proviſions to be carried to the Greek village ſituated on Cape Sigeum, where we hoped to be more quiet, and to find greater facility for proſecuting our obſervations far from the ſuſpicious looks of the Muſſulmans.

We were very agreeably ſurpriſed in viſiting Troas, with the *Iliad* in one hand, and the map of Citizen Lechevalier in the other, to find the greateſt exactneſs in the pictures which Homer has tranſmitted to us. It is true, there is ſcarcely any longer to be found a trace of the cities which exiſted in theſe countries: the inhabitants even have diſappeared; but the courſe of the Simoïs and that of the Scamander have not changed: we perceive, on the banks of the latter, the marſhes of which Homer makes mention: time has not been able to deſtroy the hillocks of earth under which repoſe the aſhes of the heroes whoſe names have been handed down to us;


MAP
OF
TROAS
AND
OF THE COURSE OF THE SIMOIS,
From its Source to its Mouth.
Scale of seven thousand two hundred Toises.
3 Leagues.
600 1200 2400 4800 7200
Cotylus or Mt Gargara
Elevated 775 Toises above the Sea
Principal Source of the Simois
Sources of the Simois
MOUNT IDA
Evdagdar-Keui
Mill
Turcmeni-Keui
Idalla-Keui
Tchiflik
Saidjacter
Chatalcham
Bairamitche
Sibale
Kemale
Tchiflik
Agache-Keui
Achmatche-Keui
CHAINS OF LOFTY MOUNTAINS COVERED WITH WOOD
Bulache
Tenedos
Rabbit I.
I. of TENEDOS

us; the waves of the ſea have not produced any perceptible change on the coaſt: the lands are ſtill fertile, and ſuſceptible of ſupporting a great number of inhabitants: foreſts of pines and oaks ſtill cover Mount IDA, and all the mountains which preſent themſelves to the eaſt of TROAS.

Some of the learned have been deſirous of proving that the war of which HOMER ſpeaks, has not taken place; they add, that TROY has never exiſted, and that the whole *Iliad* is a romance. The object of our reſearches, in travelling over theſe countries, was not to know whether we ought to conſider as a fable, embelliſhed with the charms of poetry, or as an hiſtorical trait conſiderably altered, that long and cruel war which all the ſovereigns of GREECE waged againſt the Trojans for a princeſs carried off from her huſband; a terrible war, in which, on both ſides, a great number of warriors and heroes were ſacrificed: a war in which all the gods of OLYMPUS took a very active part. The illuſion produced in our mind by the writings of the prince of poets, was too dear to us to endeavour to deſtroy it by reflections perhaps judicious.

We had ſo much pleaſure in meaſuring the extent of the camp of the Greeks, in beholding the place of their debarkation, in following the banks of the SIMOÏS and of the SCAMANDER, witneſſes of ſo many exploits; in looking for the hill of fig-trees, the object of ANDROMECA's inquietude; in finding again the traces of ILION and PERGAMUS, in contemplating thoſe heaps of earth under which repoſe the aſhes of the Greek and Trojan heroes: we had ſo much pleaſure, I ſay, that we ſhould, perhaps, at that moment have turned a deaf ear to him who might have wiſhed to perſuade us that nothing in theſe places affords intereſt and retraces recollections.

But whatever opinion may be adopted reſpecting the war of TROY, and the exiſtence of that city, ſince the publication of the intereſting travels of

Citizen LECHEVALIER in TROAS, and the luminous applications which he makes of the paſſages of HOMER, it is no longer allowable to doubt that the author of the Iliad had the moſt exact knowledge of a country in the vicinity of the places which he inhabited, and that he had even travelled over it before he traced the plan of his poem; and, in that caſe, TROAS and the poem preſent to the traveller all the intereſt of truth.

The diſtance from the DARDANELLES to the firſt caſtle of ASIA, *KOUM-KALESSI*, is about four leagues. Thence to Cape SIGEUM, on which is built *YENITCHER-KEUI*, is near half a league: the ground continues riſing in this latter ſpace, and you meet with two tombs, which are preſumed to be thoſe of ACHILLES and PATROCLUS. The town, ſituated behind the caſtle, on the left bank of the SIMOÏS, on a ſandy ſoil perfectly level, is not near ſo extenſive or ſo populous as the DARDANELLES. Neither is the air there ſo wholeſome, on account of the marſhes which are on the oppoſite bank of the river, and whoſe putrid exhalations, in ſummer, are carried over the town by the north north-eaſt wind, which blows uninterruptedly during that ſeaſon. Thoſe which are ſeen in the plain, to the ſouth of the town, alſo contribute to occaſion intermittent fevers, and remitting putrid ones, towards the end of the ſummer, when the wind returns to the ſouth. The former, anciently known by the name of *PALUS-STOMA*, or *STOMA-LIMNE'*, are ſupplied by the waters of the ſea; the latter are produced by the waters of the SCAMANDER, which ſpread over the low lands that ſurround it.

Beyond the firſt-mentioned marſhes lies a little cove, which is thought to be the harbour where the Greeks who came to the ſiege of TROY landed: the Turks call it *KARAMLIKLIMANI*.

The *Thymbrius* takes its ſource to the north north-weſt of Mount Ida, traverſes a fertile plain, almoſt entirely cultivated, and diſcharges itſelf into the Simoïs, at a little diſtance from the ſea. If you aſcend this river, whoſe direction is from eaſt to weſt, after an hour's progreſs, you find, at ſome diſtance from the left bank, the ſpot which Constantine had firſt choſen for making the capital of the empire of the East. If you ſtill proceed for another long half hour, you ſee, on the right bank, a little village called *Hale li-keui*; and quite cloſe to it, towards the north-eaſt, the ruins of a temple, which is ſuppoſed to have been that of Apollo Thymbræus. At a ſhort league further on, ſtill following the rivulet, you find *Thumbrek-keui*, a village built probably on the ruins of *Thymbra*, a town ſituated formerly at a little diſtance from Dardanus, of which it was a dependency.

It was in the plain of Thymbra, in the environs of the temple of Apollo, that Achilles, according to ſome authors, was ſtruck by the fatal arrow which Paris let fly at him: Apollo himſelf, by their account, had directed the arrow, in order to avenge the death of Hector, and that of a great number of Trojans, who had likewiſe periſhed by the hand of Achilles.

We leave to antiquaries to tell us whether the town and the plain had received their name from ſavory, an odoriferous plant, called *thymbra* by the Greeks, or whether that name was given to it by Dardanus, the founder of the town in honour of *Thymbrios* his friend: we ſhall only ſay that ſavory grows in abundance in this plain and on all the riſing grounds in the neighbourhood.

On quitting this village, we directed our route to the ſouth, leaving on the left the firſt chain of Mount Ida. After two hours' journey on foot over an uneven, hilly ſoil, almoſt entirely uncultivated, we arrived at another

village called *Alch-keui:* the Simoïs flows a quarter of a league farther. We met with ſeveral flocks of broad-tailed ſheep: we inquired of the ſhepherds, whether there were not on the neighbouring mountains ferocious animals, ſuch as hyænas, ounces, wolves, and jackals, which came to attack their flocks and carry off ſome ſheep: they anſwered us, that this happened to them very ſeldom, becauſe they kept a good watch. We learnt that there were on theſe mountains bears, wild boars, and jackals; but we never could make ourſelves underſtood when we talked of the hyæna and the ounce, which, in the ſequel, we found common in Syria, in Egypt, and in Persia. It alſo appeared to us that there were very few wolves in theſe countries, but a great many jackals, which are known to be an animal by no means ferocious, and ſcarcely ſtronger than the fox: jackals are dangerous to ſheep and goats, only on account of their going in very numerous packs.

In the middle of the ſpring, when the plain begins to be ſtripped of its verdure by the action of a burning ſun, the ſhepherds of theſe countries, as well as thoſe of the ſouth of France and of Spain, go and ſeek in the vallies, and on the mountains up the country, paſtures which the coolneſs and moiſture there maintain in that ſeaſon. They do not return to the vicinity of the ſea till the firſt rains of autumn have revived vegetation, which drought had relaxed or ſuſpended.

The Simoïs takes its ſource to the ſouth-weſt of Cotylus: it flows nearly to the weſt, traverſes a ſpace of from twelve to fifteen leagues, receives the Andrius above Ine'keui, and ſeveral other rivulets, and diſcharges itſelf into the Hellespont, half a league to the north north-eaſt of Cape Sigeum. That ſtream is not ſufficiently conſiderable to deſerve the name of river; it is rather a torrent ſwelled by the rains, at the end of the autumn, in winter, and in the ſpring, or by the ſudden melting of the ſnow which falls ſometimes in Nivôſe and in Pluviôſe, on Mount Ida and Cotylus.

Its bed is tolerably wide; but its waters are ſeldom abundant, and in ſummer it is almoſt dry, ſince a pacha has turned aſide the ſtream of the SCAMANDER, and poured its waters into the ÆGEAN SEA.

The SCAMANDER takes its riſe at the extremity of the plain of TROY, from five or ſix ſprings, one of which is remarkable for its waters ſomewhat lukewarm. After having traverſed a ſpace of ſix or ſeven miles, it diſcharges itſelf into the SIMOÏS, a league from the ſea. Confined in its bed, it experiences no perceptible variation; its banks are enamelled with flowers in almoſt all ſeaſons; and, in ſeveral places, the lands are ſo low, and the waters fill its bed in ſuch a manner, that they ſpread themſelves, and form ſeveral marſhes, producing reeds, ruſhes, and various aquatic plants. In the rainy ſeaſon, the SCAMANDER is leſs conſiderable than the SIMOÏS; but it has over it the advantage of always having nearly the ſame quantity of water, and of carrying fertility into the plain that it traverſes.

We here preſerve to the SIMOÏS its name as far as the ſea, though almoſt all the ancients ceaſed to give it that name on its junction with the SCAMANDER; but, independently of the SIMOÏS having a larger bed, and a ſtream more extenſive than the other; independently of its receiving in winter the waters of all the mountains ſituated to the eaſt of TROAS, the SCAMANDER at this day has taken another courſe. Under the reign of ABDUL-HAMID, HASSAN, captain-pacha, wiſhing to conſtruct ſeveral mills, and to water the lands which he poſſeſſed towards the Cape of TROY, cauſed a canal to be dug to the weſtward of the little village of ERKESSI-KEUI, and poured into it the waters of the SCAMANDER: from that time they have flowed into the ÆGEAN SEA, nearly half a league to the ſouth of the Cape of TROY.

The coaſt is low and marſhy at the new mouth of the SCAMANDER: it riſes imperceptibly from the Cape of TROY to the village of YENI-KEUI; and thence to Cape SIGEUM it is ſteep. You walk over an elevated lawn, whence the eye meaſures without obſtacle the whole extent of the plain: you perceive at the extremity the riſing ground on which ſtood ancient TROY: beyond, Mount IDA preſents itſelf in the form of an amphitheatre, and compoſes a picture of the greateſt beauty. To the north is ſeen the HELLESPONT and the Cherſoneſus of THRACE; to the weſt, the ÆGEAN SEA, and ſome of its iſlands. TENEDOS is to be remarked from its pyramidal mountain, its riſing grounds, and its plains covered with vine-plots. The little iſland, called *RABBIT ISLAND*, has never fixed the attention of geographers and hiſtorians. You diſtinguiſh imperfectly the volcanic Iſland of LEMNOS, in which, according to fable, VULCAN had eſtabliſhed his forges. To the north-weſt, the lofty iſlands of IMBROS and of SAMOTHRACE appeared to form but one, or even to be confounded with the continent.

YENITCHER-KEUI*, built on the ruins of SIGEUM, ſtill preſents a few veſtiges of the ancient town. The curious go thither to admire a block of marble eight or nine feet long, placed by the ſide of the door of a church: it bears a Greek inſcription, almoſt entirely effaced, the words of which follow each other without interruption, that is, that the firſt line runs, as among us, from left to right, and the ſecond runs back from right to left, and ſo on to the end.

On the other ſide of the door is ſeen a bas relief in marble, tolerably well wrought: it repreſents a woman ſeated, to whom other women appear to

* YENITCHER-KEUI, village of the janizaries: it is at this day called DJAOUR-KEUI, village of the infidels, ſince it is no longer occupied but by Greeks.

offer

offer children in ſwaddling-clothes: behind theſe is ſeen another woman, holding a box in one hand, and a vaſe in the other. M. DE CHOISEUL, ambaſſador at CONSTANTINOPLE, wiſhing to have theſe two pieces of marble carried off, applied to the PORTE, and obtained permiſſion for that purpoſe; but not having been able to remove the obſtacles thrown in his way by the inhabitants, he contented himſelf with cauſing impreſſions to be taken of the latter.

To the north of the village, are ten or twelve windmills, which ſerve as a land-mark to mariners: half a league to the ſouth, they alſo remark the tomb of ANTILOCHUS, ſituated on the elevated lawn of which I have already ſpoken. ANTILOCHUS, ſon of the wiſe NESTOR, periſhed at the ſiege of TROY, in wiſhing to parry the blow that MEMNON was ſtriking at his father. A league more to the ſouth, you find, towards the Cape of TROY, the tomb of PENELEUS, one of the chiefs of the Thebans*; that of ÆSIETES is a league from the ſea, to the eaſt of the new mouth of the SCAMANDER. It is from the elevated top of this tomb that POLITES, ſon of PRIAM, truſting to the lightneſs of his heels, came to obſerve the movements of the Greeks, and watch the moment when they ſhould advance towards TROY. From this tomb to the city is not quite two leagues: thence it is about three to the ſhores of the HELLESPONT, where the Greeks were encamped.

Wiſhing to aſcend the SCAMANDER to its very ſources, we got entangled ſeveral times in marſhes, whence we had ſome difficulty to extricate ourſelves:

* Nothing proves that it is the tomb of PENELEUS. This opinion, hazarded by CHANDLER, has been adopted by LECHEVALIER. PENELEUS, according to ſome others, was killed by EURIPELES, grandſon of PRIAM, who had brought ſuccour to TROY in the tenth year of the ſiege, but it appears that his death was poſterior to that of ACHILLES, for no mention is made of it in HOMER.

we were obliged to recede from the river, and take the road that leads to BOUNAR-BACHI. We had a quarter of a league to the right, the little village of BOSKEUI. When we were at the extremity of the plain, we ſaw the firſt ſource of the SCAMANDER iſſue below the road; the ERINE'OS, or the hill of wild fig-trees, was on the other ſide: we thought, at firſt ſight, that we perceived remains of an ancient piece of maſonry, which extended over the hill, but we ſoon got the better of our miſtake; what we had at firſt taken for maſonry, was nothing more than the rock itſelf, formed of a ſort of calcareous aſſemblage of flints, united by a ſtony cement, reddiſh, and very ſubſtantial.

On following the road, we ſaw ſeveral other ſprings, more or leſs copious. We more particularly ſought for that ſpoken of by HOMER, whoſe waters are hot and ſmoking in winter: it is the neareſt to the village: it has preſerved a baſin formed by ſome blocks of granite and marble: we plunged our hands into it in Floréal, year VI, when, returning from FRANCE with Citizens FERREGEAU, PAMPELONE, and other Frenchmen, we wiſhed to viſit once more this intereſting country. The waters appeared to us only a little luke-warm; but, in winter, we had found them ſuch as HOMER deſcribes them. They are very limpid, have ſcarcely any flavour, and form no apparent ſediment. After having watered ſome gardens, and traverſed a miry ſoil, where grow willows, elms, ruſhes, and reeds, all theſe ſprings unite in one common bed, the breadth of which is twelve, fifteen, or twenty feet by two or three in depth. This is the famous SCAMANDER of which I have already made mention.

BOUNAR-BACHI is ſituated to the north-eaſt of the luke-warm ſpring, on a ground gently ſloping: the population of this village does not amount to two hundred ſouls, notwithſtanding the fertility of its ſoil, the abundance of its paſtures, and its advantageous poſition. We haſtened to aſcend the hill

hill where, it is to be preſumed, according to HOMER, that ancient TROY was built: we had already reached two tombs, ſituated on a ſtony ſoil, at the extremity of the riſing ground, without diſcovering as yet any trace of an ancient city: we advanced on an elevated ſpot, almoſt perpendicular, at the foot of which meanders the SIMOÏS. We had, before us, at a little diſtance, the firſt chains of Mount IDA; we beheld at our feet the SIMOÏS, flowing between calcareous hills, in a narrow fertile valley: to the north, we perceived the HELLESPONT as far as Cape SIGEUM: to the weſt, we diſcovered all the plain; we followed the courſe of the two rivers; we diſtinguiſhed the tombs of ÆSIETES and ANTILOCHUS; we were, in a word, on the ground of the citadel and of PRIAM's palace, and we ſtill looking for the ſite of TROY. After an exact ſearch, we diſcovered a few almoſt imperceptible fragments of potter's-ware, and ſome remains of maſonry; yet it muſt be confeſſed that, but for the Iliad, one would not ſuſpect that this is the place where exiſted that famous city, which for ten years ſuſtained the united efforts of all the ſovereigns of GREECE.

Citizen LECHEVALIER thinks, that it occupies all the ſpace compriſed between BOUNAR-BACHI and the precipice, at the foot of which the SIMOÏS ſhapes its meandring courſe: he places the citadel on the edge of this precipice, and the Scean, or weſt gates, at the village itſelf: he deſignates the uncultivated hill that lies to the ſouth-weſt, on which are ſtill ſeen the wild fig-tree and almond-tree, as well as the ERINEOS or hill of fig-trees, and his proofs are inconteſtable, if the SCAMANDER had its ſources at the foot of the town, if TROY were built on the SIMOÏS, if, from its poſition, as much as from the valour of its warriors, it may have been able to reſiſt for ten years a formidable army.

Half a league to the ſouth is ſeen a mountain covered with wood, which the Turks call *CARA-DAAG:* beyond this mountain ſtands INE'KEUI, a ſmall village

village built on a rivulet, which is thought to be the ANDRIUS of the ancients: a league farther on, is ſeen *ESKI-SKUPTCHU*, which Citizen LECHEVALIER ſuppoſes to be the ancient *SCEPSIS*. The opinion of this learned man appears to us to be well founded; for, independently of there being no great difference between the Turkiſh word *SKUPTCHU* and the Greek word *SKEPSIS*, STRABO ſays poſitively that the firſt SCEPSIS was near the higheſt part of Mount IDA, which muſt make us ſuppoſe it more to the eaſt; but he adds that another town of SCEPSIS was afterwards built forty ſtada from the former, which agrees perfectly with the preſent poſition of SKUPTCHU.

This town was the country of DEMETRIUS, the grammarian, and of ſeveral illuſtrious men. It had many libraries and was famous for its excellent paſtures. ARTAXERXES, king of PERSIA, made, as is well known, a preſent to THEMISTOCLES, of PERCOTE and SCEPSIS, for his wardrobe, as he gave him LAMPSACUS for his wines, MAGNESIA on the MŒANDER for his bread, and MYONTE for his meat.

After having croſſed the *ANDRIUS* you get into a valley of the greateſt fertility, in the middle of which the SIMOÏS rolls its waters. This valley is four or five leagues in length, by a league or a league and a half in breadth. The village of BAIRAMITCHE', almoſt entirely peopled by Turks, is ſituated at the eaſtern extremity of this beautiful plain.

COTYLUS, which lies three leagues beyond the village, is the moſt lofty mountain of all thoſe which are to the eaſt of TROAS. Its height, above the level of the waters of the ſea, is nearly ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five toiſes.

According

P.J. Redouté del

OAK ...which produces the galnut used in trade. QUERCUS INFECTORIA

P.J. Redouté del

OAK *which produces the gall nut used in trade.* QUERCUS INFECTORIA.

According to the number of the villages preſented by the map of this country, one of the beſt ſituated, the moſt beautiful, and the moſt fertile o the EAST, the reader would be inclined to believe, no doubt, that it is extremely populous; but if he conſider that not any one of the villages contains more than three hundred inhabitants*, that the greater part of them have not two hundred, and that ſome are not equal to the meaneſt of our hamlets, he will not be ſurpriſed if I do not eſtimate beyond ſeven or eight thouſand all the inhabitants compriſed in that place: I except not even from this calculation the firſt caſtle of ASIA, which alone contains near one-third of that population. The inhabitants of TROAS are far from induſtrious; they content themſelves with gathering for their wants, wheat, barley, cotton, and ſeſamum; with rearing a few flocks, and with going on the neighbouring mountains to gather the galnut and the *velanida* uſed in trade.

The oak which furniſhes this galnut (*PLATE XIV.* and *PLATE XV.*) is not at all known to botaniſts. It is ſcattered throughout all ASIA MINOR, from the BOSPHORUS as far as SYRIA †, from the coaſts of the ARCHIPELAGO as far as the frontiers of PERSIA. It bears a crooked ſtem; it ſeldom reaches the height of ſix feet, and more frequently preſents itſelf under the form of a ſhrub, than under that of a little tree.

Its leaves are ſmooth, of a bright green, both above and below, borne on a petiole rather ſhort: they are toothed, and each tooth is terminated by a point by no means ſharp. They fall every year at the end of the autumn. The acorn is elongated, ſmooth, two or three times longer than

* We muſt thence except *Baaiamikbi*, which has near ſix hundred.

† Citizen LA BILLARDIE'RE, member of the inſtitute, found it on Mount *Caſſius* in *Syria*.

the cup; the latter is ſeſſile, in a ſlight degree downy, and furniſhed with ſcales not very apparent *.

The galnut *(fig. a.)* is hard, ligneous, and heavy: it comes at the ſhoots of the young boughs, and acquires from four to twelve lines in diameter. It is generally round and covered with tuberoſities, ſome of which are pointed.

This galnut is much more eſteemed when it is gathered before its maturity, that is, before the iſſuing of the inſect by which it is produced. The galls which are pierced or thoſe from which the inſect has eſcaped, are of a brighter colour: they are not ſo heavy nor ſo proper as the others for dyeing.

The Orientals take care to gather the galls at the preciſe time that experience has proved to be the moſt favourable to them: it is that in which this excreſcence has acquired its full ſize and its full weight. Were they to delay gathering it, the larva which lives in the inſide would there undergo its metamorphoſis, would pierce it, and appear under the form of a little winged inſect. The gall-nut thenceforth no longer deriving from the tree the juices neceſſary for the growth of the inſect, would dry up, and loſe part of the qualities which render it fit for dyeing.

The agas take care that, towards the middle of Meſſidor, the cultivators viſit the hills and mountains that are covered with oaks. It is their intereſt that the galls ſhould be of a good quality, becauſe they levy a duty on them. The firſt galls picked up are laid apart: they are known in the EAST under the name of *yerli*, and diſtinguiſhed in trade by the terms of *black galls*

* QUERCUS infectoria *foliis ovato-oblongis; ſinuato-dentatis, glaberrimis, decidius; fructibus ſeſſilibus, longiſſimis.*

and

and *green galls*. Thoſe which have eſcaped the firſt ſearches, and which are gathered a little later, called *white galls*, are of a very inferior quality.

The galls of the environs of MOSSOUL and of TOCAT, and in general thoſe which come from the eaſtern part of TURKEY, are leſs eſteemed than thoſe of the environs of ALEPPO, SMYRNA, MAGNESIA, KARAHISSAR, DIARBEKIR, and of all the interior of NATOLIA. The former are ſold at SMYRNA and at ALEPPO, two or three piaſtres leſs per quintal than the others.

The inhabitants almoſt every where neglect to pick up the acorns; they ſerve as food for the wild boars and goats: the latter contribute greatly to render the oak ſmall and ſtunted, by devouring, with its fruit, a part of its foliage and of its young boughs.

The diplolepis which produces theſe galls (*fig. c. c.*) has a body of a fawn colour, with the antennæ dark, and the upper part of the abdomen of a ſhining brown. It is ſometimes found under its latter form in the inſide of the galls which are not yet pierced*.

On the ſame oak are ſeen a great number of other galls which the inhabitants neglect to gather, becauſe they are not fit for dyeing. That which we have drawn is remarkable from its ſize. It is ſpongy, very light, of a brown red, covered with a reſinous coat, and furniſhed with a circular row of tubercles placed nearly towards the moſt inflated part. It differs, as is ſeen, from that of the *tauſin* oak, and the inſect which produces it differs from it alſo. This is a diplolepis whoſe body is of a brown and fawn colour mixed. The antennæ and the feet are blackiſh †.

* *Diplolepis gallæ tinctoriæ*. Encyclop. inſect. vol. vi. page 281.

† DIPLOLEPIS gallæ reſinoſæ, *brunneo teſtaceoque varius, antennis pedibuſque fuſcis.*

The modern Greeks name *velani**, and botaniſts *quercus Ægilops*†, the oak which furniſhes the *velanida*‡. It grows on the weſtern coaſt of NATOLIA, in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in thoſe of CORFU and of CEPHALONIA, and throughout all GREECE. It does not riſe to the height of our TURKEY oak; its wood is not ſo eſteemed, and is ſcarcely employed but in cabinet-work. Its leaves are of a bright green; they are a little tomentoſe on their under ſide; their form is an oblong oval with ſharp teeth on their edges, terminated in a ſetaceous point. The acorn is big, ſhort, and a little hollow at its top. The cup is ſeſſile, very broad, and cloſely beſet with long oblong ſcales (*PLATE XIII.*)

It is this cup which the Orientals, the Italians, and the Engliſh employ as well as the gall-nut, in dyeing. The French merchants have them ſent ſometimes to MARSEILLES, only for the purpoſe of forwarding them to GENOA and LEGHORN. Our dyers have hitherto neglected to make uſe of this ſubſtance.

TROAS affords few vines, though the riſing grounds and hills are very fit for that culture; but the inhabitants are not there accuſtomed to make wine. The grapes are employed in making a confection, called *petmés* in

* From βαλανος, acorn.

† *Quercus orientalis caſtaneæ folio, glande recondita in cupula craſſa et ſquamoſa.* TOURNEFORT, coroll. 40. *Voyage au Levant*, vol. i. page 334.
POCOCKE's Travels, vol. ii. tab. 86.
Chêne à groſſes cupules. LAMARK, Encyclop. Botanique, vol. i. page 719.—*Ang.* The great prickly-cupped oak tree.

‡ "Native of the LEVANT, whence the acorns are annually brought to EUROPE for "dyeing; they are called *velani*, and the tree *velanida*, by the Greeks." Thus ſays MARTYN (in his new edition of MILLER's Gardener's and Botaniſt's Dictionary, article *quercus*); but, highly as we reſpect his authority, we prefer following our Author, whoſe information muſt, unqueſtionably, have been derived from the natives themſelves.—*Tranſlator.*

Turkiſh,

Redouté del. W. Cooke sculp.

VELANI OAK. — *QUERCUS ÆGILOPS.*

Turkiſh, of which the Orientals make a very great conſumption during the whole year: they put it into ragouts; they employ it, in lieu of ſugar and honey, in moſt of their choice diſhes; in ſhort they make of it, with ſeſamum reduced to paſte, a ſort of *nogat*, or almond-like cake, which would not be deſpiſed in EUROPE. I ſaw a great deal of it at CONSTANTINOPLE, at the DARDANELLES, and in moſt of the towns of TURKEY. The proceſs conſiſts in mixing thoſe two ſubſtances in boilers expoſed to a moderate fire, and in ſtirring it about without interruption, with a large wooden ſpatula, till the mixture be ſufficiently thickened. It is poured on large ſlabs of marble or ſheets of copper, and by its cooling, are obtained cakes which are made an inch and a half in thickneſs. This nogat is ſold retail, at five or ſix ſous a pound.

During the winter, there are on the marſhes and the rivers of TROAS, a prodigious number of ducks, herons, ſnipes, plovers, and other aquatic birds. We there ſaw a great many wild ſwans, ſcoters, and water-hens. Gulls and ſea-ſwallows keep more commonly in the channel. In Floréal, we made a tolerably good collection of plants and inſects: we were ſurpriſed at the quantity of ſnakes that we met with. As the graſs was high and tufted, we walked with ſome precaution, fearing that theſe reptiles might be venomous. It was probably the ſeaſon of their loves, for they were almoſt always two by two. Notwithſtanding their ſize, their hiſſing, and their ſparkling eyes, they were not of the race of thoſe of which fable reminds us. Theſe fled at our approach, and appeared by no means diſpoſed to dart at us, and make us undergo the fate of LAOCOON and his ſons.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER IV.

An account of Alexandria-Troas *and its environs.—Arrival at* Tenedos.—*Deſcription of that iſland.—Its productions.—Manners of its inhabitants.*

If the city of Troy no longer affords traces of its exiſtence; if the palace of Priam, the citadel, the temples, and the walls of the city have been deſtroyed to its very foundations; if the ruins of a conſiderable city have been able to diſappear totally, that which, ſeveral ages after, was intended to ſupply its place, although deſtroyed itſelf, ſtill preſents at this day the marks of its ancient ſplendour. An opinion may be formed of its extent from its walls, and of its magnificence from the remains of its monuments: the prodigious quantity of fragments of pillars, capitals, and cornices, that are ſeen ſcattered about, atteſt the luxury and riches of its inhabitants.

Six leagues to the ſouth of Cape Sigeum, are found the ruins of the city which Alexander ordered to be erected in memory of that of Troy, which had long ceaſed to exiſt. Antigonus, one of his lieutenants, to whoſe lot Asia Minor fell after his death, laid the foundations of it, at the ſame time that he rebuilt Smyrna, and brought back thither the inhabitants diſperſed by the Lydians. Antigonus gave his name to the city which he founded; but Lysimachus, who poſſeſſed it afterwards, reſtored to it the name of the conqueror who had firſt drawn the plan of it. He embelliſhed it, and gave it greater extent. Having paſſed under the domination of the Romans, it became, under Augustus, one of the handſomeſt cities of the East. Under Adrian, Herodes Atticus, governor

of

of the free towns of ASIA, conſtructed a ſuperb aqueduct, a few traces of which are ſtill to be ſeen. It is probable that it was a part of the waters of the SCAMANDER which he had brought thither; for no others exiſt in the environs, which are ſufficiently abundant to ſupply the wants of a great city.

I ſhall not undertake to deſcribe the remains of the monuments that ALEXANDRIA-TROAS preſents at the preſent day: on this ſubject, the reader may conſult the travellers who have preceded me, ſuch as POCOCKE, WHEELER, CHANDLER, LECHEVALIER, and others.

The walls of the city, thoſe of the houſes, of the temples, and of the other monuments, were built of a rather hard ſhelly ſtone. The marble of PAROS and that of MARMORA are there pretty common, as well as various ſorts of granite. Near the harbour are ſtill to be ſeen two large marble pillars which the TURKS wiſhed to ſhip there: they are the remains of thoſe which the ſultans have ſucceſſively carried off in order to conſtruct the greater part of the moſques of CONSTANTINOPLE; one of them was broken in the conveyance.

To the ſouth of the city is a ſmall rivulet of little importance, and to the ſouth-eaſt, near this rivulet, two ſprings of warm mineral waters, of which the Turks and the Greeks make uſe without knowing their nature and almoſt always without ſucceſs. They are ſeen to come in crowds, in the ſpring, from TENEDOS and from TROAS, in order to be purged and to bathe, the one with a view of preventing future complaints; the other, in order to cure ſome ſerious diſorder, or to obtain only ſome relief in their infirmities. Theſe waters are more particularly recommended for diſorders of the ſkin, the leproſy, and *ſyphilis*.

The

The harbour has very little extent; it is almoſt choked up; and its entrance is obſtructed by the ſands which the ſtream of the waters of the HELLESPONT and the movement of the waves of the ſea inſenſibly bring on the coaſt of TROAS. This harbour would not at this day ſuffice for the maritime commerce of a town at all conſiderable, ſituated in ſuch a manner as to ſerve as a ſtaple for the neighbouring countries; but at a time when this commerce was limited, when merchant-veſſels were ſcarcely as capacious as our large boats, when they were inceſſantly in activity in a climate where navigation is never ſuſpended nor relaxèd, it may be conceived that a ſmall number of veſſels might ſuffice for the exportation of the ſurplus of a country-town, and bring back from the neighbouring countries all the commodities that the wants or the luxury of its inhabitants demanded.

This harbour formed a ſort of ſemi-circular baſin, ſeparated from the ſea by a jetty: it is ſheltered from the north and north-weſt winds by Cape TOUZELIK and by a range of rocks ſituated beſide its entrance.

Hiſtory makes no mention of the epoch in which this city was deſtroyed: it already no longer exiſted when the Turks came to eſtabliſh themſelves in this country; for, according to LEUNCLAVIUS, before SOLIMAN, ſon of ORKHAN, went into the Cherſoneſus of THRACE and came to beſiege GALLIPOLI, he walked for a long time over the ſite of TROY, contemplating with admiration the walls partly crumbled away of that great city, the ruins of its immenſe edifices, and that prodigious quantity of marbles and granites which were there heaped up.

The environs of ALEXANDRIA-TROAS preſent a fertile ſoil, forming a plain, on which the *velani* oak grows in abundance, and without culture.

This

This plain is ſeparated from that of TROY by a few hills more or leſs elevated. A mountain which makes a continuation of thoſe of IDA, preſents itſelf two or three leagues to the eaſt, and extends towards the ſouth: thence to Cape *BABA*, the ground appears uneven, more or leſs fertile, towards the ſea; mountainous and wooded up the country. But before we direct our route to the ſouth, let us croſs to TENEDOS, and caſt an eye on what it affords moſt curious and moſt intereſting.

On the 16th of Pluvioſe (4th of February) we left ALEXANDER'S TROY in a tickliſh caïque which we had ſent for from the firſt caſtle of ASIA; and as the weather was very fine and the temperature of the air very mild, we were extremely glad to follow the coaſt as far as *KOUM-BOURNO* or *Sandy Cape*, and to land from time to time. We found nothing remarkable throughout all this ſpace: we looked in vain for ſome veſtiges of ancient cities, ſome traces of *LARISSA*, which geographers place towards that cape: nothing offered itſelf to our eyes. The coaſt is low and ſandy; the plain is fertile, almoſt uncultivated, and croſſed by a rivulet called *SUDLU-SOU*, ſwelled ſometimes in winter by the rain waters: this rivulet grows wider at its mouth, and there forms a few marſhes. I am ignorant of the name that it bore in antiquity. We ſet out in the afternoon from the pitch of the cape, and, by rowing, we arrived early at the harbour of TENEDOS.

The diſtance from that iſland to the neareſt coaſt is no more than a league and a half*: it is reckoned about five from the town to the entrance of the HELLESPONT. The harbour is ſmall, and can receive only merchant-veſſels: it is formed by a jetty even with the water's edge, and a tongue of land on which is conſtructed the citadel that defends the entrance, and

* STRABO fixes the diſtance from TENEDOS, to the neareſt coaſt, at eleven ſtada, or one thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-five paces. We think it nearly three thouſand toiſes.

can at moſt ſecure it againſt being ſurpriſed by a privateer. The town is built in the form of a ſemi-circle, in a valley, and on the declivity of two hills: its population is from five to ſix thouſand ſouls, to judge of it from its extent, and from the number of perſons who pay the karatch.

At TENEDOS are reckoned as many Turks as Greeks, almoſt all occupied in the culture of the lands: few among them are mariners. The greater part of the former are attached to the duty of the citadel.

There is a waiwode or governor, an aga commandant of the citadel, under the orders of the waiwode, and a cadi or judge. The janizaries of the town, to the number of two or three hundred, are obliged to defend the place in caſe of attack, and to perform a daily duty, from which they have long ſince exempted themſelves. In the citadel are ſtill ſeen a few Venetian guns without carriages, which ſeem to be there only for the purpoſe of recalling to mind that this iſland belonged to that trading nation before the arrival of the Turks in theſe countries.

This iſland, ſcantily peopled, and ill defended, paſſed betimes under the Ottoman domination. During the minority of MAHOMET IV. the Venetians retook it after the complete defeat of the Turkiſh fleet in the ſtrait by Admiral MOCENIGO, in 1656; but, the following year, the admiral having been killed in a ſecond engagement, the Venetian fleet retired, and this iſland again fell into the power of the Turks, who have preſerved it without interruption till the preſent day.

The town is commanded by a pyramidal mountain of ſmall elevation, which appears to have been formed by the action of a volcano, the traces of which are diſcoverable on all the ground that extends thence to the ſea

in

in the north part. In the environs is found a granite remarkable from pieces more or leſs large of felſpar cryſtallized.

On going out of the town and directing your route towards the weſt, you leave this mountain to the right, and enter into a ſandy plain far from fertile, and almoſt entirely covered with vines. The hills, in general, are naked, dry, and little ſuſceptible of culture. Thoſe which are diſcovered to the ſouth of the town are calcareous; the rock is more or leſs chalky and loaded with ſea-ſhells. We remarked few fruit-trees: neither are the ALEPPO pine and the *velani* oak here in greater plenty. We killed a few rabbits on the hills; but this kind of game is ſcarce; the red partridge and the hare are met with more frequently. As for the woodcock and the quail, they prefer, as we were informed, reſting themſelves, during their paſſage, on TROAS or in the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

TENEDOS produces little corn, little fruit, and little herbage; very little cotton and ſeſamum are there gathered. The vine is the only article of wealth of this country, and its culture the principal occupation of the inhabitants: it delights in the light, ſandy, and deep lands of the plain; it thrives extremely well too towards the foot of the hills, and in all the places ſuſceptible of culture. The vines are planted at an equal diſtance from each other, and more or leſs ſpace is left between them, according to the goodneſs of the ſoil. Two dreſſings are regularly given, the one in winter, the other in ſpring: the vine is trimmed before the end of the winter, as in our ſouthern departments, and the vintage begins in the firſt days of Fructidor: but at that period the grape is already ſo ripe, ſo ſweet, and ſo ſaccharine, that fermentation would take place too ſlowly, were not a certain quantity of water added. The inhabitants are accuſtomed to put in a fourth part at the moment when the grape is received into the vat. With this method, vicious as it is, they obtain a ſpirituous wine of a tolerably

good quality. We drank ſome at the houſes of a few rich private perſons, which we ſhould have taken for excellent BOURDEAUX wine, if we had not been appriſed: true it is that it was made with more care than that intended for trade, and that it had received but a ſixth part of water: beſides, it was old and kept in bottle. We alſo drank, at a Greek biſhop's, ſome excellent muſcadel wine red and white, which was by no means inferior to the beſt Frontignac. No water is put to the latter: the grape is ſtoned; it is preſſed, and ſqueezed as expeditiouſly as poſſible, and it is left to ferment without the lees for ſome time. About the middle of the winter, it is put into caſks or jars: it is then poured off a ſecond time, and kept in earthen pots, varniſhed, which are carefully corked.

The manner of making muſcadel wine inclines us to think that it is rather with a view of obtaining a greater quantity of wine, than with that of haſtening and promoting fermentation, that water is added to the expreſſed juice of the grape. Avidity induces the greater part of the inhabitants to exceed the proportions; they ſometimes add too great a quantity of water; which cauſes their wine to turn ſour before they have found an opportunity of ſelling it.

This liquor pays to the imperial treaſury at the rate of two parats the oke, which duty is levied on the vender. The farmer of this tax proceeds, immediately after the vintage, to the houſes and ſtore-houſes of private perſons, in order to make an eſtimate of the wine that they have, and fix the quantity which they are to drink, and which they may ſell. He cauſes himſelf to be paid in proportion to the ſale, according to the eſtimate that has been made, and ſometimes he takes the liberty of requiring it in advance, being almoſt always certain in this matter of being ſupported by a waiwode and a cadi as unjuſt as himſelf.

There

There are annually exported from TENEDOS upwards of ſix hundred thouſand okes of wine, which produce to the farmer more than 30,000 piaſtres. This wine paſſes to CONSTANTINOPLE, to SMYRNA, and into RUSSIA. It is preferred to the wine of *RODOSTO* and to that of the Iſland of *THASSOS*, ſituated near the continent, to the north-weſt of TENEDOS. There is alſo exported a ſmall quantity of brandy, which pays four parats per oke duty.

Although the Turks poſſeſs vineyards, yet they do not allow themſelves to make wine: they are equally prohibited from it by the law of the State and the religion of the Prophet. They ſell their grapes to Greek traders, after having taken out what they wiſh to keep for their winter-ſtock, and put apart what they intend to make into confection.

The climate of TENEDOS is ſtill more temperate than that of the DARDANELLES: the cold is never ſharply felt there; it ſeldom freezes, and the ſummer heats are tempered by the north north-eaſt wind, which blows regularly during the day. The houſes have terraces or flat roofs inſtead of ridged ones; and although the greater part of them are conſtructed with maſonry, there is not to be remarked in them the elegance and ſolidity of thoſe of SCIO and of the iſlands at all conſiderable of the ARCHIPELAGO, which have belonged to the Genoeſe and the Venetians.

At TENEDOS, the Greeks have not that gaiety which they are ſeen to poſſeſs in the other iſlands: ſilent and melancholy in the ſtreets, they ſcarcely dare take a little recreation in their own houſes: they avoid noiſy pleaſures which would infallibly draw on them the attention of the Turks, and awaken all their cupidity; but when they can without danger, they give themſelves up to a ſort of extravagant joy and delirium. The coaſt of

TROY is frequently the theatre of their orgies or the field of their pleaſures: thither they repair on the occaſion of a wedding or of a feſtival, and there, under the plane-tree or the oak, they paſs the whole day in dancing, ſinging, eating, and drinking.

The Greek, under whoſe roof we lodged, thought, in his capacity of agent of the Republic, that he might, before our departure, give at his houſe an entertainment, to which he invited the principal inhabitants of the town. A great number of women of all ages alſo came thither. Wine was not ſpared: the muſicians were numerous: the dancing, at firſt grave, ſlow, and in meaſure, was afterwards ſo quick, and ſo tumultuous among the men, that the floor partly gave way; but as no one was hurt, it continued not the leſs, on that account, in another room, and was prolonged to a late hour of the night. Bacchanalian ſongs ſucceeded amorous ditties, and ſinging gave place to bawling when the party had emptied a great number of flaſks.

However, the women though gay, departed not from their uſual reſerve: there reigned among them the greateſt decorum: their dancing was always grave; their ſongs continued to be ſoft and agreeable: they mixed not with the men, and neither participated in their ebriety nor in their delirium. Almoſt all the young ones were handſome: ſome among them ſtruck us by their beauty; they might well be compared, from their features and their ſhape, to the moſt beautiful models that antiquity has tranſmitted to us.

We ſhould have been glad to direct our ſteps to the Iſlands of LEMNOS, IMBROS, and SAMOTHRACE we could have wiſhed to examine, in the firſt, the traces of the volcano of which hiſtory and fable ſeem to make mention, to ſee its vaſt harbours, and the productions of its fertile territory. The other two, which we had perceived for a long time paſt, excited our curioſity from

from their elevation, from the woods by which they are covered, and from what was related to us of the Greek tribes by which they are inhabited. But finding no veſſel in the harbour of TENEDOS for thoſe iſlands, and not caring, in the middle of winter, to truſt ourſelves in a caïque, we determined to take advantage of a large decked boat that was ſetting ſail for MITYLENE.

CHAPTER V.

Arrival at Leſbos.—*Deſcription of that iſland.—Its population and its commerce.*

We ſailed from Tenedos on the 24th of Pluviôſe (12th of February) at eight o'clock in the morning, with a light breeze from the north. We ranged along the coaſt of Asia, and found ourſelves at noon off Cape *Baba*, formerly the promontory *Lectos*. Our ſkipper would have allowed us to land at the town ſituated to the eaſt of the cape, had he not been afraid of not arriving before night at Port *Petra*. He conſented, however, to follow for ſome time longer the coaſt which we wiſhed to examine.

The town, ſituated by the ſea-ſide, on a ſloping ground, has a ſmall harbour for boats: ſhips and veſſels thwarted by the north wind, ſometimes anchor two or three cables' length from the harbour till the wind changes. On that day were lying here two veſſels, the one a Venetian, the other a Raguſan, which, under ſhelter of the cape, had been waiting for upwards of a fortnight, the return of the ſoutherly wind in order to enter the Helleſpont, and proceed to Constantinople.

Baba appeared to us a very ſmall town: it is very famous in Turkey, for the knife and ſword blades which are there manufactured for the uſe of the Orientals. We were told that it was peopled by as many Turks as Greeks; its ſoil is tolerably good, and furniſhes the ſame productions as that of Troas.

The

The coaſt, from the cape to the place where we quitted it, for a ſpace of two or three leagues, appeared to us volcanic: it is lofty, ſteep, and reddiſh. The interior of the country is mountainous and wooded. On receding from the coaſt, we perceived cultivated ſpots and flocks, which ſtill announce ſome inhabitants on the ruins of *Assos*, or in the environs of that town.

As the ſun was going down, we haſtened to arrive at Port PETRA, in which we caſt anchor before dark. This harbour, or to ſpeak more correctly, this road, is ſituated to the north of LESBOS. It is open to the north-weſt; which raiſed a ſwell on the water: ſhips, however, anchor there in ſafety with all winds, becauſe the waves are ſtopped by ſome rocks that lie at the entrance, and becauſe the coaſt of ASIA, the diſtance of which is only two or three leagues, does not admit of the ſea being very rough in this channel with winds from the north and north-weſt.

There were on board two janizaries to whom we had been recommended by a rich Turk belonging to TENEDOS. Impatient to arrive at MITYLENE, and apprehenſive of being delayed if they continued their route by ſea, they landed at PETRA, in the intention of croſſing the iſland. I immediately ſeized this opportunity and propoſed to accompany them. I took with me a ſervant: Citizen BRUGUIE'RE remained on board with another, in order to have an eye to our baggage, which we could not intruſt to Greek ſervants whoſe probity appeared to us ſuſpicious, nor to mariners of that nation with whom we were not acquainted.

The village of PETRA, thus named on account of a large inſulated rock of granite which lies in the middle, is ſituated in a plain towards the ſea-ſhore: here are but two or three hundred inhabitants Turks and Greeks, almoſt all cultivators. It is ſurrounded by volcanic mountains, and it has

a ſmall plain which joins to that of *Molivo*. The Greek women of this village wear a head-dreſs extremely high, ſimilar in ſome degree to a mitre.

As we found no horſes at Petra, the janizaries propoſed to me to go and ſleep at Molivo, diſtant nearly a league. This village is to the eaſt of Petra, on a riſing ground at no great diſtance from the ſea: it is built on rocks of baſaltes, preciſely in the ſpot formerly occupied by Methymna. It is commanded by a caſtle almoſt in ruins, conſtructed by the Genoeſe: here are ſtill to be ſeen ſcattered about a few diſmounted or broken cannons.

The population of Molivo may be eſtimated at two or three thouſand inhabitants, as well Turks as Greeks. Its territory is formed of a plain by no means extenſive, very fertile, and ſurrounded by volcanic mountains. Its productions conſiſt principally in oil, corn, and barley. It furniſhes a little wine and various fruits. Cotton and ſeveral kitchen-garden plants are here likewiſe gathered.

Molivo poſſeſſes, as formerly, diſtinguiſhed muſicians. In order to diſpel the *ennui* of the janizaries, while we were waiting for ſupper, there was brought to us a young Greek named *Petraki Tangros*, who was juſtly reckoned the moſt able ſinger and the greateſt muſician of Lesbos. This young man, whom a careful education would have rendered ſtill more eſtimable, poſſeſſed a comely perſon, an agreeable voice, a quick underſtanding, and a ſprightly diſpoſition. He had ſeveral times exerciſed his talents as a poet and muſician at the capital of the iſland, and was to repair in a few days to Smyrna, whence a virtuoſo, whoſe pupil and relation he was, had juſt ſent for him. I fancied I beheld in him a deſcendant of Arion, that famous lyric poet to whom Methymna had given birth within its walls, or of that Therpander who improved the lyre, and ſucceeded in quelling a ſedition by the melody of his ſinging.

We lodged at the houſe of a Muſſulman who, for a ſlight retribution, was in the habit of ſhewing hoſpitality to thoſe of his religion whom chance or buſineſs brought to MOLIVO. He preſented us for our ſupper a pilau and ſome olives: a bad ſopha ſerved as a bed for us all: my clothes I put over me in lieu of a coverlid, becauſe that which was offered me, appeared to me too much worn and too dirty.

Our boat ſet ſail the next day, at the ſame time that our landlord brought us mules, which had a tolerably good appearance, and with which we had reaſon to be ſatisfied. Notwithſtanding the intereſt and the efforts of my two fellow-travellers, I was not able to procure a ſaddle. I was under the neceſſity of contenting myſelf with a ſort of pack-ſaddle, on which a carpet was ſpread. True it is that the people of the country travel in no other manner: there are none but the agas who have ſaddles, which they take good care not to lend, eſpecially to *infidels*. We returned and paſſed through PETRA; we croſſed ſeveral mountains entirely volcanic, and, after a forced march of ſix hours, arrived at a little village ſituated in the plain which lies at the head of Port *CALONI*. This plain is two leagues in extent: its principal culture conſiſts in corn, cotton, and olive-trees: figs, muſk and water melons, pumpkins, and various legumes, are alſo here gathered. Here are ſeen ſeveral villages; but population is not in proportion to the fertility and the extent of the ſoil fit to be put into a ſtate of culture. The air is ſo unwholeſome in this quarter, that, in certain years, a great number of people die. I was aſſured that here were villages where none but lepers were to be found; in others, the face of all the inhabitants ſufficiently indicates that they are expoſed to intermittent fevers, and remittent putrid ones, and to all the diſorders which originate in the environs of marſhes. There are no other than poor Greek cultivators in all theſe unhealthful villages: the Turks, proprietors of lands, prefer a reſidence at MITYLENE, MOLIVO, and the other places the beſt ſituated in the iſland.

Port *Caloni* lies in the middle of the ſouthern part of Lesbos: it is very extenſive, very ſafe, yet little frequented. There are none but veſſels thwarted by the wind, or buffeted by a ſtorm, which go and anchor there: not one enters it to take in a cargo, or unload that which ſhe has on board.

Our dinner was ſoon over: we had not alighted from our mules an hour when we remounted them. We proceeded for three hours acroſs other volcanic mountains, after which we arrived in another plain ſituated at the head of Port *Yero* or Port *Olivier*, thus named on account of the great number of olive-trees which are planted in the plain and on the declivity of the mountains and hills that ſurround it. In the eaſtern part of the harbour, there are a few calcareous hills which have not been attacked by the fire of volcanoes. Here is found, near the ſea, a ſpring of hot mineral water, rather copious, on which the inhabitants of Mitylene ſet a very high value.

Theſe waters are reckoned aperitive in the country. People go and drink them, and bathe in them, in the intention of promoting urine, and procuring themſelves ſome relief in moſt chronic diſeaſes. I was told that they operate as a ſlight purgative when they are taken in a ſomewhat large quantity. I think them nitrous, to judge of them from their virtue and the little flavour that they poſſeſs. Husseïn, captain-pacha, has juſt built here a baſin capable of containing ten or twelve perſons: he has at the ſame time repaired the building which is occupied by the Turk charged to receive all thoſe who wiſh to make uſe of theſe waters.

Port Olivier, very well drawn by M. de Choiseul*, is one of the ſafeſt and moſt ſpacious harbours of the Archipelago: it is at the eaſtern

* *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*, pl. 43.

and

and ſouthern extremity of the iſland: it is ſaid to abound with fiſhes and conchylia: among others are found very good oyſters, which are carried to SCIO and SMYRNA. It is frequented, during the whole year, by boats and veſſels that come thither to load with the oil which is made in the environs.

From the mineral waters to MITYLENE, it is nearly two leagues. We croſſed a volcanic mountain, and reached the town by a very ſteep road. But, before we arrived there, we had from the top of this mountain a proſpect which we could not tire in admiring: MITYLENE and its territory preſented themſelves to us; we ſaw diſtinctly its two harbours, as well as the boats, the gallies, and the ſhips which were there at anchor; we meaſured the extent of the channel that ſeparates LESBOS from the continent; we perceived the numerous iſlands which lie along the coaſt of ASIA: farther on, the main land, its high mountains covered with wood, its vallies extremely fertile, well watered, and cultivated: all this aſſemblage preſented a picture whoſe beauty was heightened by the rays of the ſetting ſun, which were eſcaping behind us through a ſky partly covered with clouds.

Being favoured by the wind, our boat had arrived at an early hour, and anchored in the ſouth harbour. Citizen BRUGUIE'RE had cauſed our baggage to be landed, and taken a lodging in a convent of Greek monks.

The two harbours of MITYLENE are ſeparated by a tongue of land, on which was conſtructed by the Genoeſe a citadel that the Turks have preſerved. The upper or north harbour is ſecured from the north-eaſt wind by a jetty, the origin of which is carried back to ancient GREECE. The ſouth harbour is open and faces the ſouth-eaſt: it is a little leſs extenſive and leſs deep than the other: there are none but the boats of the country that can anchor in it, while the north harbour can admit ſmall merchant-veſſels. Men of war, and European ſhips which commerce attracts to MITYLENE,

anchor

anchor in ſummer off the ſouth harbour; but they ſcarcely expoſe themſelves there in winter, becauſe there happen ſometimes, in that ſeaſon, very impetuous gales from the north-eaſt, which might occaſion their deſtruction, or oblige them to cut their cables and get under ſail with all expedition.

There was formerly a canal of communication, between theſe two harbours, which ſeparated the tongue of land that I have juſt mentioned, and formed of it an iſland, on which was built part of the town. Time has choked up the canal, but it has not been able to deſtroy the jetty which ran from the little iſland, and ſheltered the north harbour from the worſt weather.

MITYLENE, ſometimes called at this day *CASTRO* or METELIN, contains two or three thouſand Greeks, three or four thouſand Turks, and thirty or forty Jewiſh families. The citadel is ſpacious, provided with cannon in tolerably good condition, and defended by five or ſix hundred janizaries, almoſt all married and ſettled. Within it are two moſques and a great number of houſes occupied by this militia. The modern town extends in a ſemi-circle along the north harbour, on a part of the ground occupied by the ancient city. The truncated pieces of pillars employed in the edifices, the remains of capitals, the fragments of marble and granite that are ſeen every where, atteſt its importance and beſpeak the rank which it formerly held. Some remains of inſcriptions which travellers have tranſmitted to us are ſtill viſible. In the court of the Greek convent where we ſlept, is a chair of white marble, on which may be read:

ΠΟΤΑΜΩΝΟΣ
ΑΕΣΒΟΝΑΚΤΟΣ
ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ

Seat of POTAMON, Son of LESBONAX.

This

This POTAMON, born at MITYLENE, was a diſtinguiſhed rhetorician, who lived at ROME under the Emperor TIBERUS. Wiſhing to return to his country, and there eſtabliſh a chair of eloquence, he obtained from TIBERUS letters, in which it was expreſsly mentioned that whoever ſhould dare to inſult POTAMON, would inſult in his perſon the emperor himſelf *.

LESBOS groaned a long time under particular tyrants, and enjoyed only by intervals the charms of liberty. This iſland ſucceſſively paſſed under the domination of the Perſians, and under that of the Greeks and Romans. The cruſaders eſtabliſhed themſelves here for a moment, and the Genoeſe were maſters of it when the empire of the EAST fell into the hands of the Turks.

While the Greeks were tearing each other to pieces for religious opinions, as abſurd as incomprehenſible, while ambitious men were agitating the capital and the provinces in order to arrive more expeditiouſly at the throne, the Turks, on the one hand, were making themſelves maſters of the fineſt provinces of ASIA and threatening CONSTANTINOPLE; two nations of navigators, on the other, were eſtabliſhing themſelves by degrees in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in moſt of the maritime towns of the BLACK SEA, on the BOSPHORUS, and even in GALATA, one of the ſuburbs of the capital. The ſeas of the LEVANT were covered with their veſſels, and the productions of the EAST no longer paſſed through any hands but theirs.

LESBOS was under the domination of the Genoeſe, when MAHOMET II. ten years after the capture of CONSTANTINOPLE, equipped a conſiderable fleet in order to make himſelf maſter of it. MITYLENE, METHYMNA, and moſt of the places of this iſland had been well fortified: the knights of

* HESYCHIUS, *de viris claris.*

RHODES had had time to ſend ſome ſuccour to the former, and the inhabitants, who knew the cruelties which the Turks had committed at the capture of CONSTANTINOPLE, were well diſpoſed to defend their lives. The Ottoman forces, although very conſiderable, would undoubtedly have miſcarried againſt thouſands of heroes, had the prince, named *GATTILUSIO*, had the courage of his ſoldiers, and had he not given his confidence to *LUCCO GATTILUSIO* his couſin, an ambitious and imprudent man, who thought, by the promiſe which was made to him of it in writing, to obtain the ſovereignty of the iſland by delivering it up to MAHOMET.

LUCCO, after having himſelf opened to the enemy one of the gates of the town, perſuaded his weak couſin to ſign a ſhameful capitulation, under the chimerical hope of being indemnified for the ſacrifice which he was making. But as a reward for the treachery of the one, and for the weakneſs of the other, MAHOMET cauſed them to be cruelly put to death a ſhort time after: a terrible leſſon, which traitors and cowards ſhould have inceſſantly before their eyes, and by which they ſhould profit for their own advantage.

LESBOS gave birth to a few great men, among whom are to be remarked more particularly ALCÆUS, a lyric poet, who declaimed ſo long againſt tyranny: SAPPHO, that poeteſs, whom antiquity has placed among the Muſes, and who was impelled by an unfortunate paſſion to precipitate herſelf from the promontory LEUCATES; THEOPHRASTUS, a diſciple of PLATO and ARISTOTLE, whoſe eloquence was ſo perſuaſive, and whoſe philoſophy was ſo amiable; laſtly PITTACUS, whom GREECE ranks among her ſages, furniſhes an example very rare, and which cannot be too much quoted, of a man more jealous of glory than power, more occupied with the happineſs of his fellow-citizens than with his own; of a man, in ſhort, who conceived and executed the project of uſurping power, in order to reſtore liberty to his country.

I might

I might quote, in more modern times, the two BARBAROSSAS, brothers, ſons of a potter, who, from ſimple ſailors, became famous pirates, and were afterwards, in ſucceſſion, ſovereigns of ALGIERS. The younger, appointed High Admiral by SOLIMAN I. is more known than his brother in the hiſtory of the Ottoman Empire.

Although the iſland is expoſed in winter to ſudden gales of wind from the north-eaſt and the eaſt, which come from the mountains of ASIA, as well as to the north wind which reigns over the whole ARCHIPELAGO, the climate there is, nevertheleſs, tolerably fine, and the temperature of the air ſomewhat mild. It ſeldom freezes in that ſeaſon; but, in ſummer, the heat is rather powerful on the ſouth coaſt, and the air is, in general, more unwholeſome there than in the other parts of the iſland.

At LESBOS are reckoned eight thouſand Greeks paying the karatch, from the age of ſeven to their death, which may induce us to eſtimate their population at near twenty thouſand, including the women and the children above that age. It is thought that there are nearly as many Turks as Greeks in the iſland, which contains in all forty thouſand inhabitants. The Jews are not ſufficiently numerous to be taken into the calculation.

The iſland is divided into lordſhips; but whereas the aga of other countries is obliged to join the land-forces when required, at LESBOS, he is ſubject to a maritime duty, from which he almoſt always finds means to exempt himſelf by making ſome pecuniary ſacrifices.

Through a cuſtom undoubtedly very ancient, and which the author of the *Voyage littéraire de la Grèce* has very properly remarked, the eldeſt daughter inherits alone, in this iſland, the property of the father and mother, to the excluſion of the ſons and the other daughters. This cuſtom, which time

ſent to CONSTANTINOPLE. The French formerly drew hence a great deal, and had a vice-conſul eſtabliſhed at MITYLENE: the government has aboliſhed the vice-conſulate ſince the merchants have confined themſelves to the oils of CANDIA and of the MOREA, which they find cheaper than thoſe of LESBOS.

This oil is, in general, but of an indifferent quality, becauſe the inhabitants not having a ſufficiency of mills are obliged to gather their olives ſlowly. Thoſe which fall from the tree, and remain ſome time on the ground, ſpoil more or leſs quickly, according as the weather is more or leſs damp and rainy: beſides, they are accuſtomed, before they ſend olives to the mill, to keep them heaped up in places by no means ſpacious, and to throw over them a quantity of marine ſalt, with a view of preventing their fermentation, and keeping them, as long as poſſible, from decay.

ITALY draws from MITYLENE eight thouſand quintals of *velanida*, a part of which comes from the coaſt of ASIA. Dried figs are an article of exportation of little importance, as well as wool.

Cotton, ſeſamum, ſilk, honey, wax, and different ſpecies of grain, are gathered in a ſmall quantity; but the laſt are not ſufficient for the wants of the inhabitants, who draw a great deal of wheat and barley from the coaſt of ASIA. They alſo import oxen, horſes, and mules, for agriculture and draught, as well as part of the ſheep that are killed at the ſlaughter-houſes.

Wine is ſcarce at the preſent day, becauſe a great part of the grapes is employed by the Turks in making confection, and becauſe the Greeks are accuſtomed to convert the other into brandy. In order to procure ſome, we were under the neceſſity of applying to the caloyers and to the richeſt Greeks, and that which was brought to us ſuſtained very ill the reputation that the

wine of LESBOS formerly enjoyed: it was ſweet and ill flavoured, as are, in general, all the wines of the ARCHIPELAGO.

There are no rivers in LESBOS: a few torrents, by no means extenſive, receive in winter the ſuperabundant rain-waters, and carry them to the ſea; but there are a great number of ſprings whoſe water, very good for drinking, is ſufficiently conſiderable for watering part of the plains, and, by that means, procuring to the inhabitants, legumes, herbage, and fruits.

CHAPTER VI.

Arrival at Scio.—*Deſcription of the iſland.—Manners and induſtry of the inhabitants.—Privileges.—Antiquities.—Natural hiſtory.—Productions and commerce.*

On the 28th of Pluviôſe (16th of February) the wind being faint at eaſt-north-eaſt, the weather very fine, and the ſea almoſt ſmooth, we embarked about ſeven o'clock in the morning in a large decked boat, which was getting under ſail for Scio. We ſoon doubled Cape *Malea*, or Cape *Santa Maria*: we paſſed at a little diſtance from Port *Olivier*, and already ſaw very diſtinctly the Iſland of Scio, when the wind died away by degrees, and left us becalmed: but it ſoon ſprang up again, and blew from the ſouth-eaſt without interruption all the reſt of the day. We hugged the wind as cloſely as poſſible; we alſo made uſe of our oars; but, notwithſtanding our efforts, we could not reach the Spalmadori Iſlands, ſo that we found ourſelves at ſun-ſet to the northward of the Iſland of Scio. The night was calm: we followed the coaſt by means of our oars; and, on the 29th (17th of February) at ſun-riſe, we entered the harbour, ſituated in the middle of the eaſt coaſt.

The harbour of Scio, whoſe entrance is indicated by two light-houſes, is cloſed towards the ſouth-eaſt by a jetty almoſt even with the water's edge. Sufficiently ſpacious formerly for the trade of the iſland, and of all the Archipelago, it is daily becoming choked up, without the Turks being at the ſmalleſt expenſe to remove the obſtructions and keep it in order.

The

The citadel, built by the Genoeſe, commands the harbour; an eſplanade, ſomewhat extenſive, ſeparates it from the town, and a ditch dug all round is intended to receive the waters of the ſea in caſe of ſiege. The fortifications are regular, although ancient: they are fallen into ruins in ſeveral places, and the guns are at this day almoſt without carriages, with the exception of the battery which defends the entrance of the harbour. The inſide of the citadel is full of houſes, capable of lodging with eaſe the ſeven or eight hundred janizaries who conſtitute the whole ſtrength of the iſland; but they are partly in ruins, and the Turks, as is well known, have much more inclination to pull down than to ſet up.

The town is large and well built; the ſtreets are ſtraight, paved, and tolerably clean; the houſes are high, all in maſonry, the greater part of hewn ſtone: ſandſtone, or calcareous ſtone, is made uſe of indiſcriminately. From a few diſtricts of the iſland is procured a hard, reddiſh ſandſtone, with a very fine grain, which is employed with advantage for the jams of the doors and windows, for paving the ground-floor, and for building the façades of the churches. It is, no doubt, this ſtone which was anciently diſtinguiſhed by the name of jaſper, and of which STRABO, PLINY, and CICERO have ſpoken.

It is the cuſtom at SCIO to make, in the centre of the houſes, a ſpacious apartment, very lofty, which the inhabitants uſe in ſummer during the heat of the day. They breathe a pure air, evening and morning, on the terrace or flat roof of the houſes, and at the ſame time they enjoy the proſpect of the country and of the ſea.

SCIO, as to its extent, is ſomewhat leſs conſiderable than LESBOS. Its length from north to ſouth is about fifty miles: its breadth varies greatly, on account of the windings which the coaſt preſents: it is nearly twelve miles

towards the ſouth part, and fifteen towards the north part. It is ſeparated from ASIA by a channel, whoſe width is at leaſt eight or nine miles.

The town is commanded, to the weſt and to the north, by ſchiſtoſe, granitical hills, rather arid, but, nevertheleſs, ſuſceptible of culture. To the north-weſt of theſe hills are ſeen nothing but calcareous mountains, almoſt naked, which ſcarcely leave between them a few ſpaces, that the rural induſtry of the inhabitants can turn to account. To the ſouth of the town, the eye extends with more pleaſure over a plain two leagues in extent, extremely fertile, covered with beautiful country-houſes, and adorned with gardens more or leſs ſpacious, in which are cultivated all the fruits of EUROPE, and moſt of its legumes.

The orange-tree, the common lemon-tree, the ſweet Seville orange-tree and the *cédrat* or bergamot citron-tree*, are there ſcattered with profuſion and crowded together without order. The fig-tree, the pomegranate-tree, and the plum-tree, are in rather leſs plenty. The peach-tree, the apricot-tree, the almond-tree, and the black mulberry-tree, are alſo to be met with. The roſe-tree is cultivated every where in good lands, as well as in thoſe of an indifferent quality. The ſolanum melongena, the hibiſcus eſculentus, the muſk-melon, the cucumber, and the water-melon, occupy the ſpaces which are not planted.

Theſe gardens are watered by a few ſprings, which flow from the neighbouring mountains, or by wells from which the water is raiſed by means of a

* *Cédrat, cédra,* or *citronnier-bergamote.* This is a variety of the *citrus medica* of LINNÆUS. It is the *citrus mella-roſa* of LAMARCK. The *cédrat* is diſtinguiſhed from the common citron-tree by its leaf, which has the odour of the roſe; by its fruit, which is red; and by the piſtil of its flower, which is ſhort. From the rind of the fruit of this tree, the perfume called *bergamot* is extracted.—*Tranſlator.*

wheel

wheel and two ropes, to which are adapted earthen pots placed the one after the other.

Beyond this plain, and in all the ſouth part of the iſland, the lands are almoſt every where ſuſceptible of culture, although they are, in general, of middling quality. The ground is leſs elevated, leſs uneven, than in the north part, and the population is there more conſiderable.

According to the regiſters of the government, the population of Scio is to be eſtimated at one hundred and ten thouſand inhabitants. In the capital are reckoned thirty thouſand; namely: three thouſand five hundred Turks, one thouſand five hundred Greek Roman catholics, and twenty-five thouſand Greek ſchiſmatics: about one hundred Jews may be added to this calculation. There are ſixty-eight villages in the iſland, all inhabited by Greeks. The villages which furniſh maſtic, to the number of twenty-four, are the moſt populous and the moſt rich: *Pirghi*, ſituated to the weſt, is the largeſt of all. *Ninita*, *Calamoti*, and *Calimatia*, towards the ſouth, are, next to it, the moſt conſiderable of the iſland. *Volisso*, ſituated on the ſea-ſhore, oppoſite to *Psera*, is remarkable for the rude and almoſt ſavage air of its inhabitants. However, all the villages, whatever may be their extent and ſituation, are tolerably well built, and have almoſt all an encloſure capable of ſecuring them from a *coup de main* from a corſair.

The legiſlator who may wiſh to obſerve the influence of inſtitutions and of laws on the morals, character, and induſtry of man, ought principally to turn his eye towards a people who, living under the ſame ſky, on the ſame ſoil, profeſſing the ſame religion, differ, nevertheleſs, from themſelves to ſuch a degree that they appear incognizable. After having croſſed a little arm of the ſea, I thought myſelf tranſported into another region, into another climate: I had ſeen the Greek bent under the yoke of the moſt frightful deſpotiſm;

deſpotiſm: he was deceitful, rude, timid, ignorant, ſuperſtitious, and poor*: here he enjoys a ſhadow of liberty; he is honeſt, civil, bold, induſtrious, witty, intelligent, and rich. Here I no longer find that mixture of pride and meanneſs which characterizes the Greeks of CONSTANTINOPLE, and of a great part of the LEVANT; that timidity, that cowardice, which is occaſioned by perpetual fear, that bigotry which prevents no crime. What diſtinguiſhes the inhabitants of SCIO from the other Greeks, is a decided inclination towards commerce, a warm taſte for the arts, a keen deſire for enterpriſe; it is a ſprightly, pleaſant, epigrammatic wit; it is ſometimes a ſort of mad and burleſque gaiety, which has given riſe to the following proverb: "*It is as uncommon to find a green horſe, as a prudent Sciot.*"

However true may be the overſtrained meaning of this proverb, in regard to a few inhabitants of SCIO, there are a greater number who know how to combine the moſt circumſpect prudence with the moſt lively and moſt amiable ſprightlineſs. No other town in the LEVANT preſents ſo great a maſs of information; no other contains ſo many men exempt from prejudices, full of good ſenſe and reaſon, and bleſſed with a head better organized.

Some among them may, nevertheleſs, be reproached with a ridiculous pride, a miſplaced fanaticiſm. We have ſeen fools find the gratification of their vanity in a rich portfolio, a fine houſe, or a numerous ſet of ſervants. The ignorant man, who had no perſonal titles to diſplay in ſociety, thought to be quit towards it in recalling to mind thoſe of his anceſtors. The ſtruggle which exiſts between the two churches, has frequently given riſe to ſcandalous ſcenes, of which the Turks alone have taken advantage; and the influence of the prieſthood is, perhaps, too great in a country that wiſhes to apply itſelf to agriculture and commerce.

* There are ſome exceptions to be made in the capital.

Notwithſtanding their groteſque dreſs, (See *PLATE X.*) the women are more amiable than thoſe of the capital, becauſe they are more courteous, more gay, more lively, and more witty. They are ſeen with tolerable freedom at their own home in preſence of their relations, and they enjoy, more than elſewhere, a liberty which they ſeldom abuſe. They ſpend, in all ſeaſons, part of the day in ſinging and working, playing or amuſing themſelves before their houſes: they make up to paſſengers, frequently ſpeak to them firſt, without knowing them; aim at them a jeſt or an epigram, if the latter diſpleaſe; pay them a delicate, witty compliment, if they have an agreeable manner, a prepoſſeſſing countenance. If you anſwer them in the ſame tone, the converſation begins alôud: you exert all your wit and gentility, you laugh, and you part from each other pleaſed and gratified.

If you go to the eſplanade, into the gardens, and round the town, you will meet, on Sundays and holidays, groups of young damſels, who ſtop you very frequently, play you a thouſand pranks, aſk you for money, offer you flowers and comfits: you may in like manner addreſs yourſelf to them firſt, and begin with them by ſome pleaſantry.

But in this country every thing paſſes in converſation with the girls; and the married women are much more reſerved than one would ſuppoſe at the firſt acceſs. It is not that SCIO does not reſemble almoſt all the towns of EUROPE, and that amorous intrigues do not frequently occur; but ſcandal, at leaſt, is rare: public proſtitutes conceal themſelves, and decorum reigns every where.

Though circumſpect in regard to the Turks whom they meet, the women of SCIO do not addreſs themſelves to them, nor do they anſwer their queſtions: they know that they would expoſe themſelves to ſome brutality on their part, or at leaſt to ſome indecent converſation. But they preſerve

in

WOMEN OF SCIO.

in their preſence that free air, that confident look, which is not to be ſeen even in the women of the capital.

Whether eaſy circumſtances and gaiety, under a beautiful ſky, alike concur to give to women agreeable forms, regular features, ſoft and ſlightly animated colours; or whether the Greek women have leſs degenerated here than elſewhere from their ancient beauty, it is certain that there are not to be found, in any other country of the LEVANT, ſo many beautiful women as at SCIO, and, nevertheleſs, ſubjugated by a bad taſte; they make too great a uſe of red, white, and black, which, very far from adding to their charms, cauſe that ſoftneſs to diſappear, conceal that delicate complexion, deſtroy that bloom, which every where render women ſo agreeable and ſo captivating.

Here they frequent the baths much more ſeldom than the Greek women of SMYRNA and CONSTANTINOPLE, and this, perhaps, is the reaſon why their beauty laſts longer. They attribute the whiteneſs of their teeth to the almoſt continual and general cuſtom of having maſtic inceſſantly in their mouth; but, perhaps, they owe this advantage ſtill more to the diſlike that they have to ſmoking, in which the others find an inexpreſſible pleaſure.

Economical and temperate in their family, the richeſt, as well as the pooreſt, ſhew an exceſſive love of gain. Thoſe leſs gifted by fortune employ themſelves in making ſtockings, caps, and purſes, which they ſell to paſſengers, or carry to their dealers. The rich women embroider handkerchiefs and all the linen in uſe among the Orientals; ſeveral have a frame in their own houſe, and work at ſome ſort of ſilk or cotton ſtuff. Sweetmeats, conſerves of roſes and orange-flowers, ſirups of lemon and bergamot-citron, occupy a great number of women of all ages and of all conditions. It is generally in the country that they breed the ſilk-worm and ſpin cotton.

Thoſe who apply themſelves more particularly to embroidery, give to the ſilks which they employ the colours that they wiſh. They obtain, among others, a gold yellow colour with the branches of the *celtis orientalis* *, or the leaves of the henné or Egyptian privet; a bright yellow with the flowers of broom, and the ſtems of the ſilvery-leaved daphne or tartonraira. The roots of the apple-tree yield them a pale roſe colour. The wood of the quince-tree furniſhes a very bright fleſh colour. They draw from the branches of the peach-tree a bright green, and from the leaves a deep one.

They cut the ligneous ſubſtances into little bits, ſteep them in water for two days, boil them the third day till the liquor is reduced to one half: they ſtrain it through a cloth, add a little alum, and ſet it again over the fire. As ſoon as the water boils, they ſteep their ſilk for a longer or ſhorter time, according as they wiſh to obtain a colour more or leſs deep.

The red peelings of onions yield them a tolerably bright orange colour yellow: they ſet them to ſoak in water for four or five days, and boil them with a little alum: they add a ſpoonful of cochineal, or of kermes, when they wiſh to obtain a beautiful red.

The rind of the walnut, while green, which is taken off when they pickle that fruit, affords them a green more or leſs deep.

They alſo make uſe of the galnut, of the cup of the *velani* oak, of madder-root, and of all the colouring ſubſtances employed in EUROPE.

In no iſland of the ARCHIPELAGO, nor in any country of TURKEY, did we ſee lands ſo well cultivated, commerce ſo active, and induſtry ſo great, as

* *Ang.* Oriental nettle-tree.—*T.*

at

at Scio. Grounds the moſt arid, and moſt ſtony, improve by degrees under the hand of the Sciot, and become fit to receive ſome ſeeds or ſome uſeful trees. There is no kind of traffic to which he is a ſtranger, no hazardous enterpriſe that he does not attempt. Here no one is idle: he who is not a prieſt, is moſt certainly a merchant, manufacturer, artiſan, mariner, or cultivator.

If agriculture and induſtry ſcarcely leave any thing to be wiſhed for in this iſland, it is becauſe there is no part of the Ottoman Empire that enjoys more effectual protection, or is more favoured by the government. Here, through a concurrence of fortunate circumſtances, private intereſt is in uniſon with public intereſt. As the appanage of a ſultana, the iſland is under her immediate protection. A naïb here adminiſters juſtice for the molla of Constantinople: the latter has an intereſt in watching over his ſubſtitute, and in cauſing him to be recalled, if the complaints made againſt him prove well founded. The ſultan has granted privileges to the moſt populous part of the iſland; to all the villages whoſe inhabitants cultivate the maſtic deſtined for his ſeraglio: he has withdrawn them from the rod of the mutſelim, and granted them an aga, who particularly farms that valuable commodity. The town likewiſe enjoys a great number of privileges, of which I ſhall ſpeak farther on. Laſtly, the governor, who at the ſame time farms the cuſtom-houſe duties and taxes, applies himſelf to make the moſt of the one, by the protection and the accommodation which he grants to the merchants and cultivators; he does not indulge himſelf with regard to others in perſecutions, and ruinous exactions, which too frequently overſet the fortune of the tributary ſubjects in the other towns. Here the poor man as well as the rich one, the cultivator as well as the merchant, the villager as well as the inhabitant of the town, are all alike protected, all may alike prefer their complaints, all may demand and obtain the removal of a man who ſhould abuſe too much the authority intruſted to him.

The

The cuſtom-houſe duty is regulated at five per cent. as well in regard to the Greeks as to the Muſſulmans; and from the eſtimate which is made of the cloths manufactured in the country, it follows that they ſcarcely pay three per cent. on being exported.

As for the taxes, their aſſeſſment is made, for the inhabitants of the town, by the general primates or chiefs of the diſtrict; the *yeronda*, or particular primate of each village, fixes thoſe of the cultivators of his canton. The firſt of theſe taxes is laid on property and induſtry; it ought to be levied at the rate of one piaſtre on five hundred of income, if the canons of ſultan SELIM were followed: but the long ſtay at SCIO of ſome officers of the PORTE, that of the troops of ASIA, of the Turkiſh and BARBARY ſquadrons, and a thouſand other occaſions of expenſe at the charge of the inhabitants, have from time to time furniſhed a pretext for increaſing this tax, and for carrying it to four piaſtres.

The iſland is, beſides, ſubject as well as thoſe of the ARCHIPELAGO, to the duty which the captain-pacha annually levies on them. SCIO formerly paid twenty-four purſes: at this day it pays forty-eight *.

All the ſtuffs manufactured in the iſland are, before they are ſent out of it, ſubject to a mark or ſeal affixed by the mutſelim, under penalty of confiſcation and fine: they pay the value of ſix aſpres † per pique ‡, when they are wrought in gold or in ſilver: plain ſilk ſtuffs pay only two aſpres: calicoes, dimities, and other cotton cloths, pay much leſs.

* A purſe contains 500 piaſtres: at the preſent day, it may be valued, at nearly 1000 livres, (*circa*. 41 l. ſterling.)

† The aſpre is the third of a parat. The parat is worth nearly five centimes.

‡ The pique is a meaſure of from twenty-five to twenty-ſix inches.

The karatch, or capitation, to which non-Muſſulmans are ſubject throughout the whole empire, was, after the conqueſt of the iſland, compounded for the villages, and fixed in proportion to their population and the extent of their territory. This tax has not varied ſince that time, although the population of ſome villages has increaſed, and, in ſome others, has conſiderably diminiſhed. Thoſe which furniſh maſtic, pay the karatch with that commodity.

In the town, all males, from the age of puberty, and through abuſe from ten to twelve years old, are inſcribed on a regiſter, and divided into three claſſes. Thoſe of the firſt pay eleven piaſtres; thoſe of the ſecond five and a half; and thoſe of the third two piaſtres and three-fourths. Women are exempt from this tax, and cannot be proſecuted for their huſband or their children when abſent. It may eaſily be conceived that the avidity of the collectors of the karatch would make them confound, pretty often, all thoſe ſubject to contribution, and induce them to increaſe, as much as they could, the firſt and ſecond claſſes, if the primates had not the right of cauſing the complaints of the oppreſſed to be heard, and of requiring imperiouſly that juſtice ſhould be adminiſtered.

Independently of theſe legitimate duties, which the governor is authorized to levy in his quality of muhaſſil or farmer, he levies, as mutſelim, arbitrary and illegal taxes, the produce of which, conſidered ſeparately, is by no means burdenſome to the inhabitants, but the total eſtimate of which forms a tolerably large ſum. Theſe taxes, which are the perquiſites of his place, fall on moſt eatables, and particularly on butcher's meat, the price of which is always exorbitant at Scio, under the pretext that the contractors are obliged to ſend to the coaſt of Asia for the ſheep which are there ſold. No one doubts that this excluſive privilege of ſupplying the ſhambles with ſheep is dearly

dearly purchaſed of the mutſelim, and that the naïb and janazary-aga cauſe themſelves to be paid for their ſilence in this reſpect.

Private individuals, who obtain from the mutſelim places, commiſſions, excluſive permiſſions, and ſmall farms, alſo pay him every year a retribution more or leſs great, according to their importance, and according to the competition which never fails to take place.

The *ſoubachi*, chief of the patrol, to whom the police of the town and of the country is intruſted (with the exception of the villages where maſtic is gathered) finds a thouſand opportunities of haraſſing and ſqueezing the unfortunate perſons who are off their guard for a moment. Eſtabliſhed in order to be the ſcourge of proſtitutes, he regiſters their name, taxes them, and becomes their protector. All the taverns alſo pay him a tax, of which he gives an account to the mutſelim. Quarrels, broils, law-ſuits, faults of the moſt trifling nature, are ſo many opportunities which the rapacity of the ſoubachi ſuffers not to eſcape: innocent and guilty, are all crowded into the priſons of his maſter, and are not releaſed till after they have juſtified themſelves, or have procured their liberation by dint of money.

Throughout the Ottoman Empire pecuniary fines are an inexhauſtible mine in the hands of an able governor, not over-burdened with delicacy; but here he fears, with reaſon, the complaints of the chief perſons of the diſtrict, and the reſentment of the ſultana protectreſs of the iſland. More than once, mutſelims have been known to be recalled and puniſhed on the complaint of the primates. Theſe examples, far from frequent no doubt, are nevertheleſs ſufficient for them all to be cautious, and not to exceed too much the limits of their duties.

Almoſt

Almoſt all the lands of the Ottoman Empire, as I have elſewhere ſaid, are burdened with an annual rent to the agas or lords: thoſe of Scio, through a ſpecial favour of Soliman I. have preſerved almoſt all the privileges which they enjoyed under the domination of the Genoeſe. The inhabitants of the villages which furniſh maſtic acknowledge for chief no other than the aga who farms that production: exempt from contributing their labour gratuitouſly on public occaſions, they are obliged only to convey the maſtic to the town, and furniſh horſes and beaſts of burden to this aga, when he travels about the villages in order to collect it.

We had an opportunity of ſeeing the aga in his tour: preceded by military muſic, followed by ſeveral tchocadars, and ſurrounded by a great number of villagers eager to attend him, we ſhould much rather have taken him for a military commander than a ſimple farmer of taxes, had we not been previouſly informed. As perſons travelling in the ſervice of the Republic, he received us with much attention, made us a preſent of a few pounds of the fineſt maſtic that he had, and gave us letters for the head men of the villages whither we were going. We obtained every where, by means of theſe letters, convenient lodgings, the food that we aſked for, and the horſes that we wanted.

One of the nobleſt privileges of the Sciots, that which ſerves as a dam againſt the torrent of the judicial injuſtice of the Turks, is to have notaries of their religion, whoſe acts, in the Greek dialect, are reſpected by the Ottomans, and received at their tribunal as authentic documents. The Roman catholics have one who aſſumes the title of apoſtolical notary. The Greeks, infinitely more numerous, have ſeveral.

Next to this privilege, the greateſt of all, is that of nominating among them five primates, whoſe functions conſiſt in defending with firmneſs the

validity of theſe acts, in examining and judging all the litigious affairs of the iſland, as to civil matters, which concern them. Criminal matters are not within the competency of theſe primates: however, as the redreſs of public grievances belongs to them, they receive the declarations of the plaintiffs, accuſe the delinquent to the government, and proſecute his trial at the Turkiſh tribunal.

The aſſeſſment and collection of the taxes are committed to their care: they pour their amount into the coffer of the muhaſſil, without any other deduction than the fees of the collectors. They are appointed for a year only, by the majority of votes, in a general aſſembly convoked for that purpoſe. Three of theſe primates are taken from among the Greeks, and two from among the Roman catholics.

At the ſame time are appointed the *protomaſtoſi*, a ſort of conſul-judges, whoſe functions conſiſt in taking cognizance of all litigious affairs relative to purchaſes and ſales, manufactures, and, in general, every thing that relates to the commerce of the iſland, both interior and exterior. They prevent illegal acts and ſmuggling; they deal roughly with thoſe who, in order to ſave the duty, have not cauſed the governor's ſeal to be put to the ſtuffs and linens which they wiſh to ſend abroad. In all caſes their ſentence is to be carried into execution without appeal: but in the latter, the muhaſſil requires from the delinquent, beſides the confiſcation of the piece not marked, a ſum of money proportioned to the value of the goods on which he wiſhed to evade the duty.

This municipal juriſdiction, very much reſpected by the Turks, is compoſed of three Greeks and one Roman catholic: it is annual, more frequently biennial, and is never intruſted to any but merchants, who join to a knowledge of commerce an unequivocal reputation for probity.

The

The inhabitants of Scio have likewiſe the privilege of electing every year two intendants of health, whoſe number they increaſe in caſe of the plague. Their power extends in this reſpect over all who inhabit or land on the iſland, with the exception of the Turks and Franks. They are allowed to prohibit a peſtiferous village from all communication with the town, at the ſame time furniſhing it, nevertheleſs, with all the aſſiſtance which humanity claims in ſimilar caſes. But, woe be to the cultivator, who, through the allurement of gain, or any other motive, ſhould paſs the limits which the intereſt of all has traced! He would be apprehended, and ſubjected to a cruel baſtinado.

Theſe intendants allow not a ſuſpected boat to enter the harbour; they oblige her to remain in the road, inform themſelves frequently of the health of the crew; and if there be any ſailor attacked by the plague, they cauſe him to be conveyed to the lazaretto. One of them precedes him, armed with a ſtick, always ready to ſtrike whoever ſhould not get out of the way at the word *alarga*, pronounced with a ſtrong voice.

The lazaretto, which we viſited at a time when there was no uneaſineſs felt reſpecting the plague, is contained in a vaſt encloſure, towards the ſea, to the north of the town. The entrance to it is by a road ſhaded by an arbour, and paved with ſtones variouſly coloured. It conſiſts of ſeveral piles of building ſeparated from each other, intended, ſome for the ſick, and others for the convaleſcents.

When the plague is in the town, the intendants alternately go their round; they ſtation guards at the infeſted houſes, in order to prevent all communication: they place about the ſick, in a condition to pay the expenſe, people capable of taking care of them; and if the peſtiferous perſon be poor, and deſtitute of aſſiſtance, they cauſe him to be taken to the

lazaretto, with all the effects belonging to him, ſuſceptible of being fumigated and purified.

Notwithſtanding the precautions which the Greeks and even the native Turks take to ſecure themſelves from this diſorder, the great acceſs of Turkiſh ſtrangers which cannot be oppoſed, the frequent arrival of ſhips of war, and perhaps too the negligence which occurs in examining the boats that are daily bringing eatables from ASIA, with which the iſland cannot diſpenſe, are ſo many cauſes that tend ſometimes to introduce the plague among them. That of 1788, which in a little time carried off fourteen thouſand perſons, will long be quoted as one of the moſt calamitous epochs in the hiſtory of this country.

Theſe intendants have alſo the inſpection of the hoſpital of lepers, ſituated in a narrow valley, at ſome diſtance to the north north-weſt of the town. Each patient has a very ſmall lodging and a very little garden which he is at liberty to cultivate. I ſaw with regret that, in the LEVANT, all lepers were conſidered as incurable, and that, in conſequence, there was not adminiſtered to any the aſſiſtance capable, perhaps, of effecting a cure. I invite European phyſicians who may be able to make ſome ſtay at SCIO, to occupy themſelves with this intereſting object. They will find in the intendants, in the primates, and in the notables of the town, every accommodation that they can want for the obſervations which they may wiſh to make, and the experiments which they may be inclined to try.

Muſſulman toleration, which leaves the Sciots the liberty of having a police, tribunals, and particular judges, is ſtill more indulgent in regard to their religion. The Greeks, infinitely more numerous, more rich, and more powerful than the Latins, poſſeſs about ſeven hundred churches in the iſland, a calculation which will, no doubt, appear exaggerated, but the exactneſs of

of which was warranted to me by the beſt-informed perſons of Scio. Perſecuted by their adverſaries, the weak Latins have no more than four at the preſent day, a ſingle one in the town, and three in the country. The number of prieſts, as may well be imagined, is proportionate to this aſtoniſhing number of churches. It is extremely curious to ſee them diſplay, in the midſt of the fanatic Muſſulmans, all the pomp of the Greek and Roman religious ceremonies. Their proceſſions and interments attract an innumerable train; the prieſts in their ſurplices, the papas in their ſtoles, traverſe the ſtreets of the town, preceded by a long croſs, followed by a great number of faithful with a wax-taper in their hand. The ſtern Muſſulman ſees them paſs without murmuring, provided they pay homage to the moſques, provided they interrupt their ſinging at the ſight of that venerable place, that they detach the croſs from its ſtaff, and hold it humbly lowered.

The privilege of having bells to their churches is granted only to the inhabitants of the maſtic villages: they ſerve for calling them to prayers, to maſs, to work, to the gathering of the maſtic, to the parochial aſſemblies; they are likewiſe intended for giving the alarm in caſe of attack or fire.

Independently of the Latin churches of which I have ſpoken, there are three convents of friars under the protection of France. The capuchins conſider themſelves as proprietors of the conſular houſe, which makes a part of their convent. The monks had decamped a long time before our arrival at Scio, and the chapel was abandoned ſince the conſul no longer paid for the ſervice that was performed there before.

The hiſtory of Scio is loſt in the obſcurity of time, and is confounded with the errors of fable. At firſt under the rod of kings, next under republican agitation, then under the odious tyranny of factions, alternately independent

independent and ſubjected, never perhaps free and happy, the inhabitants of Scio have paſſed ſucceſſively under the domination of the Perſians, under that of the Greeks, and under that of the Romans. The Venetians attempted to eſtabliſh themſelves there when the Europeans in a delirium were crowding towards the oriental regions, in order to drive the *infidel* Muſſulmans from the *Holy Land*. The Greek emperors ſoon after ſold the iſland to ſome Genoeſe nobles, and that republic had rendered it the emporium of an extenſive commerce, when, in 1566, SOLIMAN I. made himſelf maſter of it.

Favoured by the catholics of the country, the Venetians took poſſeſſion of SCIO, in 1693, towards the end of the reign of ACHMET II: they conducted themſelves there in a very indecorous and very impolitic manner, by perſecuting the Greeks enemies of the Latins. The year after MEZOMORTO, a Turkiſh admiral, had only to preſent himſelf to beat them and expel them from the iſland. Since that epoch, SCIO has not ceaſed to be ſubject to the empire of the creſcent.

The moſt ancient and the moſt valuable monument on which this iſland prides itſelf, is that it is called the *School of* HOMER. Four miles to the north of the town, at the foot of Mount *Epos*, is found near the ſea-ſhore, a calcareous rock, whoſe ſummit is cut into the ſhape of a platform; it is about twenty feet in diameter: a ſeat crowns its circumference: in the centre is a ſquare block, which riſes from the rock to a foot and a half in height, and which bears on each of its ſides the figure of a mutilated ſphynx, ſcarcely cognizable. Such is this monument which the inhabitants conſider as the place where HOMER inſtructed and delighted his countrymen; for they are perſuaded that SCIO gave birth to that great man.

This

This opinion, warmly ſupported by ſome, ſtrongly conteſted by others, ſtill leaves the mind in ſuſpenſe. The moſt intelligent inhabitants of SCIO inſtance among others an arch of gray marble, which was ſtill ſhewn not long ſince, at *ERYTHES*, as an ancient monument belonging to the houſe in which HOMER was born. They alſo quote the excellent wine produced by the riſing grounds of ERYTHES, bordering on the Arviſian fields; a wine known at SCIO from times the moſt remote, under the name of *HOMER'S nectar*. By their account, it is this nectar that was given him when he was weaned; it is the delicious wine of theſe riſing grounds, that was ſpilt on the altars which were erected to him when his verſes had rendered him immortal.

Two leagues beyond the *School of HOMER*, lies Port DAUPHIN, on which was ſituated the ancient *DELPHINIUM*. Ships of war anchor in this harbour in winter; whereas they find it more convenient and equally ſafe, in ſummer, to come to in the environs of the town of SCIO.

When you have paſſed the SPALMODORI Iſlands, and doubled the cape, you arrive at *CARDAMYLA*, where, according to TOURNEFORT, are to be ſeen the ruins of a temple which he believes to have been conſecrated to NEPTUNE. We did not land at *CARDAMYLA*, but we paſſed very cloſe to it on the day of our departure from MITYLENE. The coaſt in the environs is very elevated and ſteep: the rock, naked in ſeveral places, appeared to us every where calcareous.

To the weſt of the iſland, is perceived at a little diſtance from PIRGHI, in a ſmall plain that terminates at the ſea, ruins which muſt be conſidered as thoſe of the ancient *PHANUM*. This place, at the preſent day called *PHANA*, preſents heaps of rubbiſh, piles of ſtones, for the moſt part ſquare, ſmooth, and cut with a chiſel; but neither inſcription, pillar, nor baſs-reliefs are

there to be diſcovered: the anchorage expoſed to the north-weſt would be dangerous in winter for large ſhips. The Arviſian fields and riſing grounds, ſo celebrated formerly for the goodneſs of their wines, are more to the north, and make part of the territory of VOLISSO.

In the firſt excurſions which we made in the iſland, the inhabitants did not fail to direct our ſteps towards *SCLAVIA*, ſituated upwards of two leagues to the ſouth of SCIO. A running ſtream, freſh and copious, iſſues at the foot of ſome calcareous rocks, and waters gardens which lie below. This place, truly beautiful, truly pictureſque, is held in veneration in the country: an infinite number of virtues are attributed to theſe waters, and it is believed that it was at this fountain that the beautiful HELEN came to bathe when ſhe inhabited the iſland.

With reſpect to ancient ſculpture, no remarkable monument of this kind is to be met with at Scio, except two headleſs buſts, let into the outer wall of a country-houſe built by the Genoeſe, at a little diſtance from the town. Citizen DIGEON, vice-conſul of the Republic, conſidered them as two buſts of ISIS, in which, according to him, the Egyptian chiſel of the reign of the PTOLEMIES was diſtinguiſhable; but the corſet with which they are clothed, as well as an ornament probably of metal, which they wore on the boſom, to judge of it from the hollows that are in it, incline us to think that theſe buſts are more modern, and, in all probability, the work of the Genoeſe.

Some pieces of pillars, ſome remains of capitals are ſtill to be ſeen in moſt of the villages which we traverſed, but no trace of ancient edifices, no veſtige of a temple is to be perceived; time and the hand of man have deſtroyed every thing.

Maſtic

Maſtic muſt be conſidered as one of the moſt important productions of the iſland, and the moſt valuable, ſince to this it is that the inhabitants of Scio owe a part of their privileges, and the cultivators their independence, their comfort, and, perhaps, their happineſs. The lentiſk which produces it, differs not from that which grows in the ſouth of Europe and in all the iſlands of the Archipelago. At Scio, are remarked only a few ſlight varieties with larger leaves, which culture has produced, and which are perpetuated by layers and grafting.

In order to obtain the maſtic, numerous inciſions are made in the trunk and principal branches of the lentiſk, from the 15th to the 20th of July, according to the Greek calendar. There exudes little by little from all thoſe inciſions, a liquid juice which inſenſibly grows thicker, remains attached to the tree in drops more or leſs large, or falls and thickens on the ground, when it is very abundant. The former is the moſt in requeſt: it is detached with a ſharp iron inſtrument, half an inch in breadth at its extremity. Frequently cloths are placed under the tree, in order that the maſtic which trickles from it, may not be impregnated with earth and filth.

According to the regulations made on this ſubject, the firſt gathering cannot take place before the 27th of Auguſt. It laſts eight ſucceſſive days, after which freſh inciſions are made in the trees till the 25th of September, then the ſecond gathering is made, which likewiſe laſts eight days. After this time the trees are cut no more; but the maſtic which continues to run, is gathered till the 19th of November, on the Monday and Tueſday of every week. It is afterwards forbidden to gather this production.

The culture of the lentiſk is ſimple and eaſy: it conſiſts much more in cleanſing the ſoil than in turning it up. The cultivators diſpenſe with cutting this tree, and they take good care not to form it a handſome ſtem.

It has been diſcovered that the lentiſks which trail, yield much more maſtic than thoſe whoſe ſtem is ſtraight and ſhooting.

Leſs like trees than ſhrubs, their trunk ſcarcely acquires ſeven or eight inches in diameter, and their height is ſeldom above twelve or fifteen feet.

Citizen DIGEON communicated to us an experiment which deſerves to be known. As it is forbidden to cultivate the lentiſk out of the limits traced by the government, a Turk thought to evade the law, and nevertheleſs obtain maſtic by grafting the lentiſk on young turpentine-trees. Theſe grafts ſucceeded perfectly well; but this man was very much aſtoniſhed, a few years after, to ſee flow from the inciſions that he had made, a ſubſtance which combined with the odour and the qualities of maſtic, the liquidneſs of turpentine.

Maſtic is gathered in twenty-one villages ſituated to the ſouth of the town. There are, beſides, three villages to the weſt, whoſe plantations far from productive have been abandoned. The latter have not, on that account, leſs preſerved their ancient denomination and the privileges which the others enjoy: they pay their impoſt in lime ſince they no longer furniſh maſtic.

This production amounts, one year with another, to fifty thouſand okes and even more. Twenty-one thouſand belong to the aga who farms this commodity, and are delivered by the cultivators in payment of their perſonal impoſt. They are paid for the ſurplus at the rate of 50 parats the oke (nearly 16 ſous the pound) and they are prohibited, under very ſevere penalties, from ſelling or diſpoſing of it to any other than the aga who farms it.

The

The beſt and fineſt quality is ſent to CONSTANTINOPLE for the palace of the Grand Signior. The ſecond quality is intended for CAIRO, and paſſes into the harems of the Mamalûks. The merchants generally obtain a mixture of the ſecond and third quality.

The women of SCIO, as well as the female Muſſulmans, Greeks, Armenians, and Jeweſſes of the whole empire, are in the habit of having maſtic inceſſantly in their mouth. This reſinous and odoriferous ſubſtance does not eaſily diſſolve; it becomes ſoft and very white by means of heat and ſaliva; it cleans the teeth, gives the breath an agreeable odour, ſtrengthens the ſtomach, and carries to the lungs balſamic emanations extremely ſalutary, and which may to a certain degree prevent the pulmonary conſumption, to which the inhabitants of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO are very ſubject.

SCIO turpentine is daily becoming more ſcarce. Barely two hundred okes are collected at this day, whereas double that quantity was obtained formerly. Notches are made in the tree in lieu of inciſions, and underneath them is placed a ſmall earthen veſſel fit for receiving the liquor that flows from them. The turpentine-tree acquires a ſize rather conſiderable: ſome are ſeen near the Armenian burying-ground of CONSTANTINOPLE, on the road leading to BYUK-DE'RE', which are not inferior to our largeſt walnut-trees.

The women of SCIO are very fond of its fruit: the reſinous and very aromatic taſte of its pulp pleaſes them as much as that of the kernel; and as it is ſcarcely of the ſize of a pea, they eat at the ſame time the ſtone, the pulp of a bluiſh green which covers it, and the kernel which it contains. It is called in the country *tzicoudia*, a word whoſe ſignification is not to be found in any language of the LEVANT.

 Although

Although cotton is in great plenty at Scio, yet it does not ſuffice for the ſupply of the numerous manufactories which are there eſtabliſhed. The inhabitants are obliged to ſend for a tolerably large quantity from Romania and the coaſt of Asia. They manufacture plain cloths, dimities, ſwanſkins plain and ſhaggy, and a few coarſe calicoes ſtriped blue. The country-women ſpin cotton with a wheel; they alſo employ themſelves in making ſtockings and caps which they bring to ſell at the town.

The collection of ſilk, in ordinary years, is eſtimated at ten or twelve thouſand okes: it ſometimes amounts to fifteen thouſand, a quantity which is never ſufficient for ſupplying the manufactories of the town. About twenty thouſand okes are annually procured from Bursa, Adrianople, and Syria. The mulberry-tree which is cultivated at Scio, and with which the ſilk-worm is reared is that which we know under the name of *mûrier noir* or *mûrier d'Eſpagne* *. A few private perſons draw from the fruit, a brandy not very ſpirituous, but agreeable. The price of the leaf of the mulberry-tree arrived at its ſize, is from two to three piaſtres.

The iſland produces wheat, barley, wine, oil, and a few legumes; but the quantity of theſe commodities is ſo diſproportioned to that required by the number of the inhabitants that they are obliged to draw them from all quarters. The wheat is ſcarcely ſufficient to ſubſiſt them for three months. The wine furniſhes for the conſumption of ſeven or eight: it is, in general, ſweet and ſpirituous. That which rich individuals make with care, is as good as Malaga, Frontignac, and Cyprus wines, when they have acquired a little age.

* *Morus nigra.* Linn.—*Ang.* The common mulberry-tree.

The

The oil ſuffices for the wants of the inhabitants, in good crops; they procure that article from MITYLENE when theſe are bad or indifferent: here, as well as throughout the LEVANT, they ſalt a very great quantity of olives, according to the proceſs which I have mentioned elſewhere.

Oranges, common lemons, wild lemons, and bergamot-citrons which are brought during the winter and in the ſpring to CONSTANTINOPLE, ADRIANOPLE, and SMYRNA, are a very important article of trade which is eſtimated, one year with another, at 2,000,000 of our livres (*circa* 83,333l. ſterling.) A very agreeable ſirup, in great requeſt, is alſo made with the expreſſed juice of lemons and cedrats: it is ſet to thicken over the fire, after receiving the addition of a little ſugar or honey. It is ſent to CONSTANTINOPLE, to CAIRO, and into the BLACK SEA. The rinds of theſe fruits are preſerved in ſugar or honey, and are diſtributed all over the LEVANT.

The galls while yet green of a ſpecies of willow, *ſalvia pomifera*, are in like manner preſerved in ſugar or honey. This ſweetmeat is very agreeable, much eſteemed, and highly ſtomachic. The Sciots employ not only the galls of the country, but thoſe which they receive from the neighbouring iſlands.

The roſe-tree is alſo an important article of culture, either from the great quantity of conſerve of roſes which is there made, or from the eſſential oil which is extracted from it.

Dried figs are eſteemed, and are almoſt all ſent to SMYRNA and to CONSTANTINOPLE; of theſe the merchants of SMYRNA diſpatch to EUROPE, as well from SCIO as from the coaſt of ASIA, to the amount of 100,000 livres (*circa* 4,166l. ſterling).

In moſt of the gardens is ſeen the ſebeſten, whoſe oval fruit, a little ſmaller than a common olive, contains an excellent glue, employed throughout the LEVANT for bird-catching.

A plum-tree called *verdaſſier* is here cultivated: its fruit is large, oblong, of a pale green, and of a very agreeable taſte. It ripens in July, and laſts ſcarcely three weeks. The inhabitants make it an article of trade: they peel the plum, dry it in the ſun, pack it up in boxes, and ſend it to SMYRNA and CONSTANTINOPLE, where it is ſold as high as two piaſtres the oke.

The wax is not ſufficient for the great conſumption which is made of that article in the churches of the country: the inhabitants import it from GREECE and NATOLIA: they alſo import honey for ſirups, preſerves, and ſweetmeats which they prepare; that of GREECE is the moſt eſteemed.

It is reckoned that there are about five hundred looms employed in the manufacture of ſilk ſtuffs: the inhabitants of SCIO have ſucceeded in imitating, in ſome meaſure, our LYONS ſilks: but they have copied with more ſucceſs the INDIA ſilks and cottons, which they alſo draw from ALEPPO and DAMASCUS. Thoſe of SCIO are at this day ſuperior to thoſe of theſe two cities, the oldeſt manufacturing ones of the Ottoman Empire. They alſo make a conſiderable quantity of *gaitans* or ſilk loops preferable to thoſe of CONSTANTINOPLE and BURSA. They ſerve for the edging and buttonholes of the Turkiſh dreſſes: they alſo plait ſome in gold and in ſilver for thoſe of the women. There are much fewer looms for the cottons than for the ſilks.

The trade of the various cloths manufactured at SCIO is eſtimated at upwards of 6,000,000 of our livres (250,000l. ſterling).

We ſhall not here enter into an enumeration of the articles of natural hiſtory which this iſland furniſhes in abundance: it will be ſufficient for us for the moment to preſent three ſhells unknown to naturaliſts.

1. The *denticulated* bulimus *(PLATE XVII. fig. 9. a. b.)* It reſembles, in point of form, colour, and bulk, the *nonpareil* bulimus. The laſt volute is a little angular and a little more ſtriated than the other thirteen. The mouth would be almoſt round if it had not a little poſterior ſinus: its inner rim is entirely denticulated. Two ſtronger teeth, which extend inwardly, are to be perceived; that which anſwers to the termination of the columella is more marked than the other. We found it at the foot of a wall, in a garden planted with orange-trees *.

2. The *whelk-like* melania *(fig. 8.)* It lives in the freſh waters of SCIO, of almoſt all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, of CRETE, and of SYRIA. Its form is conical, and its colour dark; it is ſmooth, compoſed of eight volutes, the laſt of which, ſeen behind, is a little longer than the others taken together. The mouth is oblong-oval; the lip is thin and without ſinuoſities. The calloſity of the columella is white. The extremity of the ſhell is a little emarginated †.

3. In the freſh waters is alſo found the *oriental* planorbis, *(PLATE XVII. fig. 11. a.* and *fig. 11. b.)* whoſe colour is ſimilar to that of the great planorbis of EUROPE; but it differs from it by its face which anſwers to the mouth,

* BULIMUS denticulatus *ſiniſter, parvulus, elongatus, ſubtiliter ſtriatus, rufeſcens: apertura cum anguſto ſinu ſuborbiculata, undique multi-dentata.*

† MELANIA buccinoïdea *breviter fuſiformis; lævigata, fuliginoſa: callo columellari albo; baſi truncato, emarginato.*

being

being deeper and the outline of the mouth not being interrupted by the convexity of the ſecond volute. In this ſhell there can ſeldom be reckoned more than three rounded volutes, ſcarcely ſtriated *.

* PLANORBIS orientalis *parvulus, ſubtrigyratus, gyris depreſſiuſculis: margine convexo; facie orali depreſſiore; apertura ſubovali.*

CHAPTER VII.

Departure from Scio.—*Stay at* Tcheſmé, *at* Tino, *at* Andros, *at* Mycone, *at* Delos, *at* Naxia, *at* Paros, *and at* Antiparos.

AFTER having in vain waited three months at SCIO, for letters from PARIS; after having tranſmitted to Citizen DESCORHES ſome reflections on the intereſting countries which we had juſt viſited, we reſolved to repair to CRETE, and to examine the iſlands and the important places that ſhould lie in our route: we ſailed, in conſequence, on the 21ſt of Floréal (10th of May) on board of a Greek boat which we had juſt hired, and, in four hours, we arrived at TCHESME', a ſmall town of ASIA, ſituated almoſt oppoſite to SCIO, at the head of a ſpacious road to which art has had no occaſion to add in order to make it a good harbour. A citadel ſomewhat extenſive, conſtructed by the Genoeſe, runs ſloping to the ſea-ſhore, and ſeems intended to ſecure from all inſult both the town and the harbour.

TCHESME' is built on the ruins of *Cyssus*. Its road, formerly famous from the victory which the fleet of the Romans there gained over that of ANTIOCHUS, is not leſs ſo, in our days, from the burning and the total deſtruction of the Turkiſh ſquadron, which happened in 1770. But the Romans took advantage of their victory; while the Ruſſians, maſters of the ſea, and ſeconded by a good wind, durſt not, after this event, force their way up the HELLESPONT, and run under the walls of the Seraglio to dictate to MUSTAPHA the conditions of peace which they might have impoſed on him.

Geographers place at the head of a bay, two or three leagues to the north of TCHESME, the ancient ERYTHRÆ, celebrated for the oracles of the Sibyl; I choſe to proceed thither on foot, while my colleague was purchaſing at TCHESME, the proviſions that we wanted. I left on the right the town and ſome chalky, calcareous hillocks; I traverſed an uneven ground, fields in culture, hillocks uncultivated, and, after an hour's journey, I found myſelf in a plain that terminated at the bay of which I have juſt ſpoken. I ſaw, at a little diſtance from the ſea, a ſpring rather copious, the water of which was harſh and burning: the environs preſented marine ſalt. A poor building ſtood by the ſide of the ſpring: I was told that there are baſins where a perſon may bathe; I wiſhed to enter them: perceiving ſome Turks, I retired, and was proceeding towards the ſea, when, a moment after, I ſaw two of them, with the yatagan in their hand, advancing towards me, threatening me and calling me *dog* and *infidel*. I had with me only a Greek ſervant, little capable of ſeconding me, though ſtrong as HERCULES; but I had a ſword-cane: this was better. I immediately unſheathed my weapon, and, in a firm and impoſing voice, deſired them to be told, that if they did not inſtantly retire, I would cauſe five hundred blows to be given them with a ſtick, in my preſence, by the aga of TCHESME. This threat and, above all, my ſword, made theſe Turks change their tone. "He is a mad-"man, he is a Frenchman," ſaid they to each other; "let us leave him "alone."

I did not think it prudent to go and ſee the ruins of ERYTHRÆ. I gathered ſeveral intereſting plants, and returned to the harbour.

The territory of TCHESME furniſhes grain and fruit in abundance: a little oil and a great many raiſins are there gathered. It is from this harbour that SCIO draws a great part of its ſubſiſtence, and that it frequently keeps up an intercourſe with SMYRNA.

The

The next day, the 22d. (11th of May,) we ſet ſail for NAXIA with a light breeze from the north. We followed the coaſt of ASIA, leaving on the right two ſmall deſert iſlands; and on the left, Cape BLANCO; we ſaw, to the ſouth of SCIO, the iſlet called *VENETICO*. We perceived diſtinctly ahead of us, ANDROS, TINO, MYCONI, NICARIA, and SAMOS: our boat was ſteering towards MYCONI, where we were in hopes to arrive before dark; but, about four o'clock in the afternoon, there appeared, to the north-weſt, ſome clouds which grew bigger and advanced towards us. Our mariners, uneaſy, were afraid of a ſudden and hard ſquall; it happened: the north-weſt wind was violent, but of ſhort duration. Our boat was good, and lightly laden. They put us down below, laid over the hatches, and, after having lowered all the ſails, with the exception of the fore-ſail only, they bore up and put before the wind. I ſuffered by the ſtorm ſo much the more ſeverely, as I was deprived of air. My colleague was not at all ſick; he had ſeen, during his voyage to the auſtral ſhores, ſeas more rough, hurricanes more terrible. We remained upwards of an hour in our nook, after which we were allowed to take the air and to participate in the joy of the crew. The wind had lulled and appeared to be getting round to the northward; the clouds were diſperſing. The ſailors aſked for wine; we gave them ſome, at the ſame time requeſting them to drink with moderation: their ebriety was to be feared with the return of bad weather. However, it was very fine the reſt of the day; the wind died away more and more, the night was ſtill, part of the crew ſlept: we reſted very well, and the next day on our riſing, finding ourſelves very cloſe to TINO, we were exceedingly glad to go on ſhore in order to repoſe for a moment.

We landed, to the eaſt, in a ſmall roadſtead ſheltered by calcareous rocks, on which we remarked, among other plants, the thornleſs caper-buſh, whoſe leaf is thicker and more ſucculent than that of the common one. We then aſcended a hill in order to herborize and ſee the interior of the iſland; after

which we ſet ſail, and ſtood on and anchored to the ſouthward, in the road-ſtead, on whoſe ſhore is built the little town of *San Nicolo*, which occupies the place of the ancient capital. The citadel is up the country, four miles from that ſpot, on a very lofty hill.

Hiſtory informs us that the Tinians had furniſhed troops to the Greeks at the battle of PLATÆA; that afterwards they had ſubmitted to the Perſians, as well as all the inhabitants of the CYCLADES. TINO was united to the Empire of the EAST when the Venetians, in 1207, made themſelves maſters of it, and fortified it in ſuch a manner that, for a long time, it reſiſted alone all the efforts of the Ottoman forces.

In 1537, BARBAROSSA, after having taken SKYRO, PATMOS, NIO, STAMPALIA, PAROS, and ſome other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, came and attacked it with a conſiderable fleet and ſome land-forces. He had already made himſelf maſter of part of the iſland; already had ſeveral villages capitulated; but ſome timely ſuccours ſent from CANDIA obliged the Turks to retire.

In 1570, SELIM II. meditating the conqueſt of CYPRUS, ſent conſiderable forces againſt this iſland, then poſſeſſed by the Venetians: the Turkiſh admiral who commanded them, made, in paſſing, a deſcent on TINO, ravaged the country, burnt ſome villages, and laid ſiege to the fortreſs. The proveditor PARUTA defended himſelf with ſo much courage, that the Turks did not think fit to loſe their time in the conqueſt of an iſland of little importance, which could not fail to fall ſooner or later into their power.

Two years after, the Turks preſented themſelves with ſixty ſhips; but they again found the courage of the inhabitants, and the prudence of the governor, obſtacles which they were unable to ſurmount. They retired after having

having ravaged the iſland anew, and carried off ſome flocks, ſome women, and ſome children.

In 1684, under MAHOMET IV. MOROSINI beat and handled very roughly the Turkiſh fleet which had come to attack the iſland for the fourth time. But in 1714, under the reign of ACHMET III. the iſland ſurrendered to DIANUM-COGGIA, captain-pacha, who had only eleven gallies and eight ſhips. The proveditor BERNARDO BALBI is reproached with having made but a feeble reſiſtance, and with having capitulated when he ought to have fought and to have waited for the ſuccour which the Republic was on the point of ſending to him.

Next to SCIO, TINO is the moſt induſtrious country of the ARCHIPELAGO, becauſe it is the moſt free and the moſt favoured by the government. No Turk here incommodes the inhabitants by his preſence, or conſtrains them by his authority. The iſland has magiſtrates, whom the people appoint every year; and theſe places, more honourable than lucrative, ſought after by all, are granted to thoſe only who have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their probity and their attachment to their country.

Here are reckoned forty towns or villages, which, according to the regiſters of the government, contain a population of fifteen thouſand eight hundred ſouls; namely: ten thouſand Greeks, and five thouſand eight hundred Latins.

The iſland is divided into two thouſand two hundred hearths, and all the lands into four hundred and ſeventy-four thouſand and ſixty-four aſpres. The aſpre is equivalent to a ground-rent value of five piaſtres, ſo that a field valued at a hundred piaſtres, is marked twenty aſpres in the regiſters. Each aſpre

aſpre pays at the rate of two parats tax, which is levied for the account of ſome Turkiſh agas who reſide at CONSTANTINOPLE.

To complete the total amount of the ſums ſucceſſively required by the PORTE for the captain-pacha and his ſuite, and in order to provide for unforeſeen diſburſements, for the expenſes of adminiſtration and others, the inhabitants pay ſome additional parats in proportion to the aſpres which they poſſeſs.

Every ground-rent property is valued and inſcribed in two regiſters; one of which is in the hands of the Latin comptroller, and the other in the hands of the Greek comptroller.

In order that the Turkiſh agas may not ſend a tchocadar to exact and gather their duties, the inhabitants compound with them, and remit them their money with the greateſt punctuality; by this means they avoid the expenſes which that agent would occaſion, and the extortion which he would not fail to exerciſe in his double quality of Muſſulman and a perſon intruſted with power.

The total impoſt, with the expenſes, amounts annually to 36,234 piaſtres; a conſiderable ſum, in proportion to the ſmall extent of the iſland, but very moderate if we conſider its population and the induſtry of its inhabitants.

TINO, in a good harveſt, produces ſufficient barley for the wants of the year.

Wheat ſcarcely affords a ſupply for three or four months.

As

As to legumes, the inhabitants gather none but a few broad beans, and ſome chich-peas, the flour of which they mix, as at SCIO, with that of wheat to make bread.

Sheep are in ſufficient plenty to admit of being exported annually to the value of from 5 to 6000 piaſtres.

No oil is made at TINO: the olives which are there gathered are ſalted and conſumed by the inhabitants.

Wine is ſufficiently abundant, to furniſh the ſupply of the European veſſels which occaſionally anchor in the harbours and roads of the iſland.

There are figs, oranges, ſeveral other fruits and various herbage for the wants of the inhabitants: theſe laſt are ſometimes furniſhed to SCIO and SMYRNA.

Honey and wax, cotton and wool, are generally conſumed in the country.

Silk is the only article of exportation at all conſiderable. A great part of the iſland is planted with mulberry-trees, and almoſt all the women are employed in rearing ſilk-worms and afterwards in winding the ſilk off the cods. Every year are imported two or three thouſand okes of raw ſilk, generally employed for the loops and ſtrings which are made at SCIO, at SMYRNA, at CONSTANTINOPLE, and elſewhere, for trimming the dreſſes of both ſexes. At TINO, and in the CYCLADES, the inhabitants cultivate the white mulberry-tree, which they ſuffer to grow at pleaſure.

The lands of the iſland are, in general, not very fertile, except in ſome plains of no great extent and in ſome watered vallies. The inhabitants make amends

amends for this deficiency by a perſevering labour, and an activity and induſtry far from common in the eaſtern countries. Here the rich man is not more idle than the poor man; the one is a merchant, trader, or agriculturiſt; the other, an artiſan, mariner, or labourer.

Neither do the women remain idle: they occupy themſelves with the cares of the family, with the rearing of ſilk-worms, with rural labours, and the day never paſſes without their taking the needle or the ſpindle, or knitting ſilk ſtockings, which are in requeſt among the Europeans on account of their ſolidity and the goodneſs of their wear.

The Europeans and the Greeks of SMYRNA, CONSTANTINOPLE, and SALONICA, prize highly the ſervants of TINO, eſpecially the female domeſtics, becauſe they find them, in general, more handy, more clean, and more honeſt than the greater part of thoſe of the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. Their number is ſo conſiderable, that every ten, twelve, or fifteen days at lateſt, there ſails, for SMYRNA, a boat loaded with young women who go to ſupply the place of thoſe who, after four or five years' ſervice, return with the intention of marrying, by means of the ſavings which they have made.

There likewiſe ſails every month a boat for CONSTANTINOPLE, and another every year for SALONICA.

The inhabitants of PYRGOS, ISTERNIA, and CARDIANI work and faſhion the marble which they have in their territory, for SMYRNA, SALONICA, and CONSTANTINOPLE. Every man gains at this buſineſs, from twenty to forty parats a day.

ANDROS is ſeparated from TINO only by a channel of a mile in width, into which veſſels of burden are afraid to enter, on account of the rocks and ſhoals which are there ſituated. This iſland is about ninety miles in circumference, while TINO is ſcarcely ſixty. Although it is lofty and mountainous like this laſt, it has in proportion more lands fit for cultivation; its plains are ſomewhat more extenſive, equally fertile, and as well watered. Here are to be ſeen fifty villages, and, nevertheleſs, its population does not exceed twelve thouſand ſouls.

ANDROS is the appanage of a ſultana: a Turkiſh waiwode there adminiſters the police and watches over the tranquillity of the iſland. It pays about 30,000 piaſtres, as well for the duties of the ſultana, as for thoſe of the captain-pacha.

Silk is the principal produce of its territory: the quantity which is annually exported is eſtimated at ſix thouſand okes. A tolerably large quantity of oranges and lemons are alſo exported for SALONICA, ATHENS, and the MOREA. The wheat, barley, wine, and oil are generally ſufficient for the conſumption of the inhabitants. The iſland alſo produces legumes, herbage, various fruits, honey, wax, and cotton.

On the morning of the 25th of Floréal (14th of May), we ſailed from the road of SAN NICOLO, and ran and anchored in that of MYCONI, diſtant nearly twelve miles. The ground which we examined to the north and to the ſouth of the town, appeared to us entirely of granite. The iſland is far from fertile, very uneven, almoſt all mountainous, though much leſs elevated than NAXOS, ANDROS, and TINO. The town, ſituated on the ſea-ſhore, is tolerably large, and contains about four thouſand inhabitants: this is the whole population of MYCONI. The inhabitants are either mariners or cultivators. They gather barley and wine in a

quantity ſufficiently large to export ſome every year. The other commodities are conſumed in the iſland. It pays 7,500 piaſtres by way of impoſt.

The ſame evening, we wiſhed to get under ſail, in order to proceed to DELOS. Our mariners would have preferred ſleeping at MYCONI, where they had friends, and where they found good wine, to going to paſs the night on the ſea-ſhore, or among ruins which inſpired them with no intereſt. They told us with perſeverance, that DELOS and the other deſert iſlands which lie near it, were the refuge of pirates, and that there was much to be feared if we reſolved to ſpend the night there. "Thoſe people," ſaid they to us, "do not content themſelves with ſtripping navigators; they kill "them and throw them into the ſea, in order to ſmother their crime and "not to be ſought after." This argument was, undoubtedly, very good; but ſince it was neceſſary to paſs the next day between theſe iſlands, there was no more danger in going to ſleep there that very night. "Drink," ſaid we to theſe poltroons; "another glaſs will give you courage, and let us de-"part." They aſked for half an hour in order to go and look out on the heights of the ſouth point of MYCONI, and, about five o'clock in the evening, we made ſail for Little DELOS, where we arrived before ſun-ſet.

We anchored in a ſmall harbour to the weſt of the iſland: we had ahead of us two iſlets, the Great and the Little REMATIARI, and farther on, at the diſtance of half a league, Great DELOS or the Iſland of RHENEA. We regaled our mariners with our TENEDOS wine and our TCHESME' proviſions, in order to make them amends for the pleaſures which they would have enjoyed at MYCONI: we recommended to them to keep a good look-out, and we went to take a walk before it grew dark.

The diſorder and confuſion exhibited by the ruins of a celebrated city, the veſtiges of temples, the remains of palaces, the rubbiſh of houſes, ſtrike

and aſtoniſh the traveller: his imagination ſeduces him for ſome time: he ſtill ſees ſtanding the monuments of which there remain no more than the traces under his ſteps; he takes a pleaſure in decorating and embelliſhing them. Their maſs is doubled; their ornaments are multiplied. He is ſtopped every moment: "There is the temple of DIANA," exclaims he: "here is that of APOLLO: there it is that the prieſts reſided." Farther on, he diſcovers a gymnaſium; he perceives a theatre, a portico; he meaſures the extent of a palace; he ſees mutilated ſtatues: it is the image of a god, it is the figure of a hero, it is the portrait of a benefactor. Every where pillars, capitals; every where marbles, granites, porphyries, with baſs-reliefs, and inſcriptions. He cannot embrace ſo many objects at once; he can have but one ſentiment, that of admiration.

But how melancholy are the ideas which preſent themſelves in their turn! "What barbarous hand," ſays he to himſelf, "firſt carried fire and ſword "among objects conſecrated to the veneration of mankind? What impious "wretch, with a ſacrilegious arm, durſt demoliſh thoſe temples which the "gold of nations and the piety of the people erected and embelliſhed? Who "could break the ſtatue of a beneficent god, of a hero who overthrew the "enemies of his country, of a mortal who invented a uſeful art?"

Men of feeling! caſt a glance on DELOS; behold firſt that iſland conſecrated to piety, covered with temples, ſumptuous edifices, adorned with delightful gardens. Figure to yourſelves an immenſe number of people landing from all quarters, bringing the tribute which piety offered to the gods through the organ of the prieſts: behold them giving themſelves up to joy the moſt pure, to pleaſures the moſt ſweet! Well!....all is deſtroyed! all has diſappeared! At this day, there no longer exiſts any thing but ruins, but deſerted fields, on which ſeem to grow, with regret, a few ſorry plants, a few ſtunted ſhrubs.

An iſland dedicated to immortals, an iſland which received offerings from all civilized nations, ought to have a miraculous origin. Floating for a long time at the mercy of the winds, DELOS, according to fable, was fixed by the voice of NEPTUNE, in order to receive the miſtreſs of JUPITER, who was purſued by the anger of JUNO in heaven and on earth. LATONA, under the form of a quail, brought forth APOLLO and DIANA at the foot of a palm-tree, and the venom of the ſerpent which threatened her, remained without effect, and could not endanger her life.

This iſland is not elevated like TINO, NAXOS, and MYCONI. Every where ſchiſtoſe or granitical, it exhibits no trace of a volcano, nothing that can explain, by the laws of phyſics, the wonders which the Greeks have tranſmitted to us reſpecting it. Mount CYNTHUS is, to the obſerver, no more than a hill of granite, of which it would be unneceſſary to ſpeak, did not every thing in this place bring back recollections, and deſerve to fix the looks of the man of curioſity.

On the 26th (15th of May), before we continued our route for NAXIA, we wiſhed to touch at the eaſt part of the Iſland of RHENEA: we paſſed at an early hour between the Great and the Little REMATIARI, and we landed at the place where the ground is ſtill ſtrewn with ruins and tombs *. It is well known that the Iſland of RHENEA became the place of interment of the inhabitants of DELOS, when, under the archon EUTHYDEMUS, it was conſidered as indecent that a ſacred land ſhould longer receive the dead bodies of mortals.

The Iſland of RHENEA, or Great DELOS, is by no means elevated; tolerably fertile, and very fit every where for the culture of the vine and

* A detailed deſcription of the ruins of *Delos* is to be found in the works of SPON, TOURNEFORT, and M. DE CHOISEUL, &c.

the

the olive-tree. Though it is rather extenſive, no inhabitants are to be ſeen: thoſe of MYCONI go thither to ſow the lands the moſt fertile, and feed a few flocks. In no place did we ſee the lentiſk and the turpentine-tree, ſo beautiful and ſo common. Our mariners, on landing, haſtened to cut down ſeveral of theſe trees for the purpoſe of renewing their ſtock of wood.

At one o'clock in the afternoon, we continued our route with a light breeze from the north, and, in four or five hours, we caſt anchor in the harbour of NAXIA, ſituated on the weſt ſide of the iſland, facing PAROS. This harbour, formerly capable of containing thirty gallies, was cloſed by a jetty which may be diſtinctly perceived when the ſea is ſmooth. It is at preſent ſeveral feet under water, and, nevertheleſs, the ſmall craft of the country lie there in ſafety in all ſeaſons. Ships of burden may anchor, in ſummer, off the harbour, under ſhelter of the rock, on which are ſtill to be ſeen the remains of the temple of BACCHUS*: but, in winter, navigators would not dare to expoſe themſelves there; they would, with reaſon, be afraid of being driven on the coaſt with a wind rather ſtrong from the north-weſt.

The town ſtands on an eminence by the ſea-ſide: it was defended, under the Venetian princes, by a citadel and by walls, which the Turks have, in a great meaſure, deſtroyed. The Latins, formerly maſters of the country, are all lodged within their encloſure. The Greeks occupy the part which extends to the eaſtward of the caſtle, known by the name of the *New Town*, Νεο-Καστρο.

The ancient city extended to the north, towards the fountain which bears the name of ARIADNE. There are alſo, below the caſtle, ſome remains of a

* *See* the drawing which M. DE CHOISEUL has given of it. *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*, pl. 23.

ſubterraneous

ſubterraneous aqueduct, that probably brought to the town the waters of a copious ſpring which is ſeen four or five miles to the eaſt, and which at this day ſerves to water a part of the plain of NAXIA.

ARIADNE's fountain is no more than a ſimple ſtreamlet of water, to which travellers would pay no attention, did it not remind them that this is the ſpot where ARIADNE abandoned herſelf to all the deſpair of a forſaken miſtreſs: it is from this ſhore that ſhe perceived the veſſel which was bearing her lover far away from her; it is on the brink of this fountain, where ſhe came every day to ſhed tears, and that BACCHUS, no leſs touched by her misfortunes than ſtruck by her beauty, ſucceeded in conſoling her, and in making her forget an ungrateful man.

BACCHUS had a temple at NAXOS: the gate and the foundations of it are ſtill to be ſeen on a ſmall iſland in the vicinity of ARIADNE's fountain*. A bridge, built on a ſtring of rocks, it is ſaid, joined this iſland to the large one, and permitted an aqueduct to bring thither the water neceſſary for the prieſts who inhabited the encloſure of the temple.

In digging lately the foundations of a houſe and of a ſtorehouſe towards the ſea-ſhore, to the northward of the caſtle, there was found a ſtatue of a woman, of a tolerably handſome form. The head and the feet were wanting; the body had ſuffered in ſome places, but the neck and a part of the drapery were in pretty good preſervation. We ſaw it in the court-yard among filth. The maſter of the houſe ſet on it no great value: he had been ſeveral times tempted to break it, in order to employ the pieces in the conſtruction of his houſe.

* TOURNEFORT. *Voyage au Levant*, vol. i. p. 219.
CHOISEUL. *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*, pl. 22.

On

On the north ſide of the iſland is found a coloſſal ſtatue of APOLLO, likewiſe imperfect, which the ſculptor appears to have abandoned anciently: it is in the neighbourhood of the quarry from which the block had been taken.

NAXOS, like the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, has experienced all the viciſſitudes of fortune. Too weak to be long independent, it was ſucceſſively in alliance with the Athenians, conquered and ravaged by the Perſians, tributary to the Romans, ceded to RHODES by MARK ANTHONY, afterwards ſubject to the emperors of the EAST, a long time governed by Venetian princes, and at length united to the Ottoman Empire under the reign of SELIM II.

The Naxiot have preſerved the precious advantage of being governed by their own laws and cuſtoms: they have a municipal adminiſtration, and judges of their own election. The little importance of their iſland, and its remoteneſs from the coaſt of ASIA, have not permitted the Turks to eſtabliſh themſelves there. The PORTE contents itſelf with ſending thither a waiwode to exerciſe the police, to gather the taxes, and remit them to CONSTANTINOPLE.

NAXOS, more free and more independent than SCIO, is, nevertheleſs, very far from having attained the degree of proſperity at which the latter has arrived. Trade there is not ſufficiently briſk; the culture of the lands is too much neglected, and the induſtry of the inhabitants is almoſt null. Ought we attribute the cauſe to the contempt which the nobles, poſſeſſors of the beſt grounds, manifeſt for labour, a contempt which has unfortunately reached almoſt every claſs of citizens?

Proud

Proud of their ancient nobility, poor and haughty, alike diſdaining commerce and agriculture, ſtrangers to the military art, theſe noblemen, deſcended from the firſt Italian families, ſee paſs inſenſibly, into plebeian hands, their ruinous manſions, their lands almoſt uncultivated, without thinking of repairing, by labour, the loſſes which an unforeſeen accident, or their own miſconduct, not unfrequently occaſions them.

The population of the iſland, according to the remarks which the principal inhabitants communicated to us, exceeds ten thouſand ſouls. The town contains nearly two thouſand: the reſt are ſcattered throughout forty-one villages. The taxes which it pays for the lands, the karatch, and the cuſtoms, amount to near forty purſes, or 40,000 livres (*circa* 1,666l. ſterling), excluſive of ſome diſburſements which it is obliged to make annually, when the captain-pacha is lying at anchor with his ſquadron in the harbour of TRIO, or DRIO, in the Iſland of PAROS.

The number of catholics is daily diminiſhing: there are reckoned ſcarcely ſix hundred ſettled in the town. This does not prevent them from ſtill having an archbiſhop, a coadjutor, ſix canons, a rector, and ſeveral curates. They have alſo a houſe of Lazariſts for the education of youth, a convent of Capuchins, a convent of Cordeliers, and a convent of cloiſtered nuns. The number of the Greeks, on the contrary, is increaſing, and their clergy are much leſs numerous and more rich than thoſe of the Latins. Here all religious ceremonies are performed with the greateſt pomp and the greateſt freedom. The PORTE gives itſelf little concern about what paſſes in the iſland, provided the impoſt be regularly paid, and that all bend at the ſight of the moſt inſignificant of its officers.

NAXIA would be one of the moſt agreeable places of reſidence in the ARCHIPELAGO, did not the inhabitants, too idle, pull each other to pieces, and

and did not the clergy of the two churches, too numerous for ſo confined a place, themſelves foment hatred and encourage diſcord. The ſtranger preſently perceives that the prieſts of the two religions govern this country with a rod of iron, and, without intending it, render the inhabitants more malicious than devout, more litigious, more quarrelſome, than juſt and humane.

The iſland is covered with high mountains, whoſe baſe is ſchiſtoſe or granitical. White marble and hard calcareous ſtone lie every where on the ſchiſtus, and give birth to a great number of ſprings, which water and fertilize the plains. The higheſt of theſe mountains is that of *JUPITER*, which the inhabitants call *DIA*, or *ZIA*. We went thither with the agent of the Republic: it lies three leagues to the eaſt of the town. We ſaw, as we paſſed, the marble that bears the inſcription of which TOURNEFORT has ſpoken. We penetrated into a gorge ſomewhat ſteep, and we arrived at a grotto of beautiful white marble, which many travellers have viſited, to judge from their names engraved at the entrance and in the inſide.

This grotto, which the inhabitants of NAXIA regard as a ſacred ſpot, whither the Bacchants of the country come to celebrate their feſtivals and their myſteries, at this day preſents nothing remarkable. In the inſide, are to be ſeen ſtalactites, ſimilar to all thoſe of calcareous grottoes; decayed fragments in different places; ſome blocks of marble detached: on the outſide, a place extremely ſolitary, little verdure, the ſummit of the mountain of JUPITER almoſt perpendicular, a pretty ſpecies of campanula* on the clefts of the rocks; a little farther, a few oaks, and a great many trilobate-leaved maples†.

* It is repreſented by TOURNEFORT. *Voyage au Levant*, vol. i. p. 243.

† *Acer cretieum.*

The upper part of the mountain is inacceſſible on that ſide: we made the tour of it; and, after ſeveral hours of fatigue, we reached the ſummit, preciſely at the place where NOINTEL, French ambaſſador at CONSTANTINOPLE, cauſed his name to be engraved, together with an inſcription, which time has already effaced. Nothing ſo beautiful as the horizon which preſented itſelf to us: we had under our eyes a bird's-eye view of the iſland, and diſtinguiſhed the greater part of its mountains: we were made to obſerve *CORONO*, which took its name from the nymph CORONIS, nurſe to BACCHUS. Every where fertile plains, watered vallies, villages well built, chapels in good condition, formed a contraſt with whitiſh rocks and arid hills, and compoſed various pictures on which our eyes could not remain fixed, ſo beautiful, ſo impoſing was the proſpect of the ſea and its iſlands.

Our looks were directed, in ſpite of ourſelves, over a great number of iſlands more or leſs lofty, more or leſs extenſive. To the north, we had MYCONI: beyond that we ſaw, to the north north-weſt, TINO and ANDROS; SIRA and JURA were detached below: we diſcovered, to the north-weſt, SERPHO, THERMIA, and ZEA; to the weſt, PAROS, ANTIPAROS, and SIPHANTO; to the ſouth-weſt, ARGENTIERA, BURNT ISLAND, and MILO: NIO and SANTORIN were to the ſouth; POLICANDRO and SIKINO to the ſouth ſouth-weſt; AMORGO and STAMPALIA, to the ſouth-eaſt; CALMINO and LERO, to the eaſt; PATMOS and NICARIA, to the north-eaſt; in ſhort, in almoſt every direction, we ſaw ſome iſlets and ſome ſcattered rocks, which can be intereſting to none but navigators.

We met with ſome flocks on the back of the mountain: they conſiſted of the little ſheep of ITALY and of PROVENCE, with ſhort and coarſe wool; and of a ſmall ſpecies of goat, of which the poor eat the fleſh, but of which the rich eſteem only the kids. We ſaw nothing more wild than the ſhepherds, nothing more unſociable than their women. They were very far from reſembling

reſembling thoſe that formerly inhabited Mount IDA, the beautiful valley of TEMPE, or the flowery banks of the MEANDER. We had ſome difficulty in obtaining a few glaſſes of milk, of which we were much in want: we were obliged to beg for a long time, and pay beforehand. But is it their fault if they are rude and miſtruſtful? They have ſo frequently heard the Turks ſpoken of, that they think all men with whom they are not acquainted, are as unjuſt and malignant as they are.

The women of NAXIA, in imitation of thoſe of SCIO, take a pleaſure in holding in their mouth an inodorous ſubſtance which their iſland produces: they chew it, and turn it about in every way, as the others do maſtic. The plant which furniſhes it is known to botaniſts by the name of *atractylis gummifera:* it does not grow high, and flowers at the end of the ſummer.

This ſubſtance has been improperly called gum: on ſubjecting it to ſome experiments, it appeared to me rather to come nearer to reſin than gum, or, to ſpeak more correctly, it is a peculiar ſubſtance, which comes nearer to elaſtic gum than to any other. Citizen DESFONTAINES obſerved that the Arabs and Moors gather it in the environs of ALGIERS, and make it into glue; but he is ignorant of the proceedings which they employ. The root of this plant affords an aliment equally wholeſome and nutritious.

The hills and riſing grounds of NAXOS are covered with myrtles, arbutuſes, lentiſks, hypericums, ſavories, thorny brooms, leguminous ſhrubs, and ſeveral ſpecies of rock-roſes, among which are to be remarked, in great plenty, that which furniſhes the labdanum. The rivulets are bordered by oleanders, agnus-caſtuſes, and plane-trees. As the ſeaſon was advancing, our collection of plants was leſs conſiderable than at SCIO. We found, however, on the rocks, the ſhrubby Cretan pink, and a beautiful ſpecies of centaury, remarkable from its purple and very large flowers; from its downy leaves,

lyre-ſhaped at the lower part of the ſtalk, and oval at the upper part, with one or two oppoſite teeth towards their baſe. The ſcales of the calyx are ciliate, and the plant is from one foot to two feet high *.

In the eaſt part of the iſland is ſeen a mine, tolerably abundant, of common emery, which ſome Engliſh ſhip-captains purchaſe, as they paſs, at a very low price. This metallic ſubſtance would be much more ſuitable to French captains, who ballaſt with ſtones their ſhips loaded with oil or cotton.

We found in moſt of the rivulets a crab, which we met with again at ALEPPO, in MESOPOTAMIA, and in PERSIA: we ſhall give the figure and the deſcription of it elſewhere.

The ſtay which we made in the country with the agent of the Republic, afforded us an opportunity of obſerving the proceedings of the cultivators, relative to caprification. It conſiſts ſimply in placing on the fig-trees which produce only the ſecond fig, the ſpecies known by the name of *fig-flowers*, or firſt figs, which appear and ripen a month or a month and a half before the others. The ſecond figs ripen, as is well known, towards the end of Thermidor, and ſucceed each other without interruption till the end of Vendémiaire, and even later. The Greeks ſtring together ten or twelve of theſe firſt figs, and ſuſpend them in different parts of the fig-tree whoſe fruits they wiſh to fecundify. This operation, of which ſome authors, both ancient and modern, have ſpoken with admiration, appeared to me nothing more than a tribute which man paid to ignorance and to prejudices. In fact, in many countries of the LEVANT, caprification is not known: it is not at all made uſe of in ITALY, FRANCE, or SPAIN: it has long been neglected

* CENTAUREA atro-purpurea *calycibus ciliatis, foliis inferioribus lyratis, ſupremis ovato-lanceolatis, baſi appendiculatis, floribus purpureis.*

in

in ſome iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, where it was formerly practiſed, and, nevertheleſs, every where are procured figs very good to be eaten. If this operation were neceſſary, whether the fecundation were to be effected by the ſeminal powder, which might be ſcattered and introduced alone by the eye of the fig, or whether Nature, in order to tranſmit it from one fig to another, ſhould make uſe of a little cynips, as has been commonly imagined, it may eaſily be conceived that theſe firſt figs in flower could not fecundify at the ſame time thoſe which have attained a certain ſize, and thoſe which ſcarcely appear, and which do not ripen till two months after the others.

Let us leave all the marvellous of caprification, and acknowledge, according to obſervation, that it muſt be uſeleſs, ſince every fig contains ſome male flowers towards its eye, capable of fecundifying all the female flowers of the inſide; and that, beſides, this fruit may grow, ripen, and become excellent to be eaten, when even the ſeeds are not fecundified.

The inhabitants of NAXOS cultivate the vine at the foot of the riſing grounds, and in the plains which are not watered. Their wine is, in general, of indifferent quality, becauſe they make it ill, and know not how to preſerve it. This wine is all conſumed in the country: it ſeldom happens that European veſſels take in any in paſſing.

The iſland furniſhes wheat, kidney-beans, garden-beans, and a few other legumes for the wants of the year.

Barley is in much greater plenty: ten or twelve thouſand quintals are annually exported.

Oil, in a favourable ſeaſon, may amount to the value of from 30 to 40,000 livres: it is of indifferent quality.

Oranges,

Oranges, lemons, bergamot-citrons, are not ſo plentiful as they might be, becauſe there is no town ſufficiently conſiderable within reach for a great conſumption. CONSTANTINOPLE is too far diſtant: SMYRNA and SALONICA have them in their territory, and receive, beſides, thoſe of SCIO. This article procures, however, every year, from 12 to 15,000 livres.

The peaches, apricots, pomegranates, pears, plums, walnuts, almonds, and figs, are conſumed in the iſland.

NAXOS has ſheep and goats for the wants of the inhabitants, a few ſmall-ſized oxen for huſbandry, together with mules and aſſes for draught. The wool is of bad quality, like all that of the ARCHIPELAGO, and is conſumed in the country.

Cheeſe is an article of exportation ſomewhat conſiderable: it amounts to 8 or 10,000 livres: it is ſent to CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, and SALONICA.

Cotton is little cultivated: a few private perſons gather it for ſtockings, caps, and ſome coarſe cloths, which are made in the family. It is the ſame with ſilk and flax.

The honey and wax are conſumed in the iſland.

To the ſouth of the town is a ſmall ſaltern, where a few cargoes of ſalt are made for the capital. The PORTE has taken poſſeſſion of it, and farms out its produce to the cuſtom-houſe officer. The ſalt is nearly all ſold to the inhabitants, at the rate of two livres for ſixty pounds.

We were not willing to quit NAXIA without making an excurſion to PAROS, without examining its mountains of marble, without ſeeing its

harbours, without taking a look at its inhabitants. This iſland, formerly one of the moſt important of the CYCLADES, had ſtill a population ſomewhat conſiderable when it was ſubjected to the Ottoman Empire by BARBAROSSA; but it has ſuffered to ſuch a degree ſince that epoch, by the pillage of the Turks, by the deſpotiſm of the government, and by the ſtay which the ſquadron of the captain-pacha makes there every year, that its inhabitants have imperceptibly diſappeared, and that it no longer preſents at this day any thing but uncultivated fields and villages partly deſtroyed. During the war of CANDIA, the Venetians alſo greatly contributed to its depopulation, by ravaging it, and deſtroying almoſt all the olive-trees, which conſtituted its principal wealth.

PAROS had ſtill ſix thouſand inhabitants at the beginning of the century: at the preſent day there are reckoned ſcarcely two thouſand. The European conſuls have withdrawn from it long ſince; the catholics have fled, and the Greeks who remain, idle and wretched, ſee themſelves expoſed every year to the ſtick of the officers of the captain-pacha's ſquadron, to the ſword of the ſailors, to the rapacity of all.

PAROS lies two leagues to the weſt of NAXOS: its extent is not near ſo conſiderable; but it has in proportion a much greater quantity of lands fit for culture. Its mountains are leſs elevated, its riſing grounds leſs arid, and its plains would be as fertile, if they were as well watered.

The harbour of *NAUSSA*, ſituated to the north, is one of the fineſt and moſt ſpacious in the ARCHIPELAGO. Here are ſtill to be ſeen the remains of the batteries which the Ruſſians had erected for defending its entrance, when, maſters of the ARCHIPELAGO in their war before the laſt with the Turks, they had made PAROS the depot of their forces.

This

This harbour is unwholeſome in autumn and towards the end of the ſummer, on account of ſome marſhes which are ſituated at the head of it. The Ruſſian army ſuffered from them to ſuch a degree, that it was obliged to quit the place, after having loſt a great number of ſailors and ſoldiers.

There are three harbours on the eaſt ſide of the iſland: the firſt, called *Port Santa Maria*, towards the north point, is ſheltered, by ſome iſlands, from winds from the north and ſouth; but it is open to the north-eaſt, which prevents ſhips from frequenting it in winter.

The harbour of *Marmora* lies in the middle. Near there is ſeen Fort *Sant Antonio*, in which Venieri, prince of the iſland, ſuſtained for a long time all the efforts of Barbarossa. He gave up this important poſt only becauſe the garriſon were in want of every thing, and periſhing with thirſt and hunger.

The harbour of *Trio* lies lower down: it is, like the firſt, ſheltered by ſome iſlands, but open to ſoutherly winds. The captain-pacha remains at anchor here every year for upwards of a month, till the return of the gallies and ſmall veſſels which he diſpatches to the neighbouring iſlands, in order to collect the impoſt to which they are ſubject.

There is only one harbour to the weſtward, at the head of which the principal town is built. Veſſels of burden anchor without, under ſhelter of ſome iſlets, as well as in the narrow channel that ſeparates Paros from Antiparos.

The modern town is built on the ruins of the ancient. At this day it is no more than a wretched village, while it was formerly one of the largeſt, richeſt, and handſomeſt cities of the Archipelago; and what comes to the

the ſupport of the teſtimony of the ancient authors, are the fragments of cornices, capitals, and pillars, which are ſeen ſcattered about, or which are to be remarked in the walls of the modern houſes and churches.

Marpesus, ſituated to the weſtward of the harbour of Marmora, is the moſt lofty mountain in the iſland: this it is that furniſhed more particularly the marble which the Greeks drew from Paros. Near an ancient quarry, here is ſtill to be ſeen the baſs-relief ſketched on a rock of which Tournefort has ſpoken, and of which M. de Choiseul has given a drawing.

Antiparos, known formerly under the name of *Oliaros*, is remarkable only for the extent of its grotto, all the details of which may be conſulted in the two authors that I have juſt quoted. But ought it to be conſidered as a quarry from which marble was extracted for a length of time, or as a vaſt cavity, ſuch as naturally exiſt in moſt calcareous mountains? The ſilence of authors leaves us in ſuſpence, and the inſpection of the ſpot affords us no greater information in this reſpect.

The inhabitants of theſe two iſlands gather, for the wants of the year, wheat, barley, wine, ſeſamum, and ſome legumes. Cotton is the moſt conſiderable production, and the only one that furniſhes the inhabitants with the means of paying their impoſt, and of procuring themſelves ſuch commodities as they are in need of. Fruits and herbage would be an article ſomewhat important, did not the Turks, who anchor at Trio, frequently take poſſeſſion of them by main force, or require them at a very low price. Theſe two iſlands pay ſomething more than 8,000 piaſtres by way of impoſt.

CHAPTER VIII.

Departure from Naxos.—*Stay at* Nio.—*Productions and induſtry of its inhabitants.—Departure from that iſland.—View of* Sikinos *and* Pholegandros.—*Arrival at* Cimolis.—*Fear of the inhabitants.—Deſcription of this volcanic iſland.—Origin of Cimolian earth.—Digging in ſome ancient ſepultures.—Shooting excurſion to* Polino.—*Serpents and wild goats of that iſland.*

In the afternoon of the 20th of Meſſidor (8th of July) we ſailed from Naxia; and, in a few hours, by means of the northerly wind, which blows regularly in ſummer over the Archipelago, we caſt anchor in the harbour of Nio. The diſtance from the one iſland to the other is ſcarcely four leagues; but, from the one harbour to the other, it is reckoned at leaſt eight. That of Nio is on the ſouth ſouth-weſt ſide of the iſland, and that of Naxia is on the weſt, as we have already mentioned.

The town is half a league from the harbour, on an eminence: it is tolerably well built, and appears to occupy the ſite of the ancient one; for ſome remains of old walls are ſtill to be perceived in its weſtern quarter.

The iſland, anciently known under the name of *Ios*, is lofty, mountainous, and interſected by ſome vallies, and ſome plains not very extenſive: it is not near ſo fertile as Paros, and is little more than forty miles in circuit. Its baſe is every where ſchiſtoſe or granitical, and the greater part of its mountains are calcareous.

The

The population of NIO amounts to three thouſand ſeven hundred ſouls, all of the Greek church. There are at this day no more than two catholic families, including that of the agent of the French nation; which is the reaſon that public tranquillity is never diſturbed there, as in moſt of the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, by the underhand dealings and intrigues of the Greek prieſts, every where jealous of the protection which FRANCE grants to the Latin churches.

NIO pays to the captain-pacha near 9,000 piaſtres, including preſents and other cuſtomary expenſes. A Greek waiwode, appointed by the PORTE, is charged with the collection of the impoſt. He is alſo to keep good order, and adminiſter juſtice, conjointly with ſix primates, whom the inhabitants elect every year in a general aſſembly.

This iſland, of too little extent to be ſufficient for its own wants, has almoſt always experienced the lot of the other CYCLADES. Hiſtory would make little mention of it, if HOMER, paſſing from SAMOS to ATHENS, had not anchored in its harbour, and died there a few days after. The inhabitants haſtened to erect to him a tomb, no veſtige of which has been remaining for a long time paſt.

Moſt of the medals of NIO bear a palm-tree on their reverſe. This tree is no longer cultivated in the iſland: it is even rather ſcarce in the ARCHIPELAGO, and thoſe which we ſaw at SCIO, in CRETE, and at NAXOS, have never yielded fruits that have arrived at maturity. The climate is not ſufficiently warm to admit of it. We ſhall even remark, that the date ripens with difficulty in EGYPT, when the tree is too much expoſed to the cool ſea-breeze.

Almoſt all the inhabitants of this iſland are cultivators: very few among them are mariners or merchants: active and laborious, they turn to pretty good account a ſoil naturally far from fertile. They neglect nothing to obtain manure, and to water the grounds intended to ſupply them with herbage and fruits.

When the labours of the country are finiſhed or interrupted, the women employ themſelves in ſpinning the cotton which they gather, and in knitting ſtockings and caps which they ſell to their dealers, or to ſtrangers who land on the iſland. We never appeared in the ſtreets without ſeeing women running up from all quarters, who came to offer us ſome, and who frequently fatigued us by the perſeverance which they diſplayed in getting us to purchaſe them.

This love of work enables the inhabitants of NIO to diſcharge the impoſt with punctuality, and procures to all a competence which one would not imagine them to enjoy at firſt ſight. Here, as well as throughout the Ottoman Empire, long and unfortunate experience has taught the tributary ſubjects, that they muſt not exhibit too much comfort, ſtill leſs make a diſplay of wealth: not only would the taxes be preſently increaſed, but the cupidity of ſome officer of the PORTE might not be ſatiated except by the ruin of all the inhabitants. The Turks, indeed, allow the *infidels* to live, provided they ſuffer to be ſnatched from them every thing that exceeds the firſt wants of life.

The iſland furniſhes wine, not only to all its inhabitants, but alſo to thoſe veſſels which anchor in the harbour.

In a good ſeaſon are gathered as much as fifty thouſand okes of oil, of indifferent quality.

The

The wheat, barley, and legumes, are generally ſufficient only for the conſumption of nine or ten months.

Every year are exported, for ANCONA and VENICE, from eight to ten thouſand okes of cotton, independently of a great number of ſtockings and caps, which paſs into ITALY and into the BLACK SEA. There are likewiſe made ſome cotton cloths, which are conſumed in the iſland.

A ſmall quantity of wax and honey is exported.

Here are bred four hundred ſmall-ſized oxen, ſix thouſand goats, and three hundred ſheep. Cheeſe is an article of importation of little importance.

We ſtaid but three days at NIO: a ſmall Raguſan veſſel being on the point of departure for ARGENTIERA, we determined to embark on board of her, and repair with her to that iſland. We ſet ſail on the 24th of Meſſidor (12th of July) at break of day, with a light breeze from the ſouth-eaſt, which permitted us to get to windward as much as was neceſſary for paſſing to the northward of *SIKINOS*. A calm afterwards detained us upwards of three hours a mile from that iſland; till the north wind, which blew, as uſual, about nine o'clock in the morning, allowed us to purſue our route.

SIKINOS lies ſeven or eight miles to the weſt-ſouth-weſt of NIO. This iſland is lofty, mountainous, of ſmall extent, and contains, as we were informed, but two hundred inhabitants. It has no harbour, and is little frequented at the preſent day by Europeans. Its productions conſiſt of wheat, barley, wine, cotton, and fruits. It pays about 2,000 piaſtres to the captain-pacha.

We

We preſently perceived, three or four leagues to the ſouth, POLICANDRO, formerly *PHOLEGANDROS*, an iſland a little ſmaller, and ſomewhat leſs productive, than SIKINOS. A moment after, we diſcovered the little deſert iſland formerly called *LAGUSA*, and by the modern Greeks *CARDIOTISSA*, ſituated nearly at an equal diſtance from SIKINOS and POLICANDRO. Five or ſix leagues to the northward we left SIPHANTO, formerly known under the name of *SIPHNOS*; and we anchored in the road of ARGENTIERA about four o'clock in the afternoon, in ſix fathoms water. Our mariners let go but one anchor, and carried a mooring to the ſhore, as the anchorage is very ſafe in ſummer, and as it is, beſides, ſheltered in all ſeaſons by *BURNT ISLAND*, which lies two miles off. (See *PLATE VI.*)

In the evening we repaired, with the captain, two ſervants, and two ſailors, to the village ſituated on a height, a mile from the coaſt. We were greatly ſurpriſed, on our arrival, to find the inhabitants under arms, and above all to ſee them level their pieces at us, in order to prevent us from advancing. We inquired after the French agent, an old ſeaman, whom the nation has placed here to ſerve as a pilot to the ſhips of war which enter the ARCHIPELAGO. They then interrogated us; and, on our anſwers, warfare was no longer in queſtion. The primates laid aſide their arms, came to us, apologized, and not only invited us to enter their town, but alſo offered us every thing that might lay in their power.

We were not long in diſcovering the cauſe of this general alarm: our unexpected appearance at the town about ſix or ſeven o'clock in the evening, in numbers which fear doubled, tripled perhaps, had made the unfortunate inhabitants apprehend the return of the robbers who not long ſince had come to plunder them.

We

We were informed that twenty Mainots had ſurpriſed them on a holiday, h ile they were drinking and diverting themſelves; and that, after having ſecured the ſmall number of men in a condition to defend themſelves, they had entered ſucceſſively into all the houſes, and had thence carried off the moſt valuable effects: they had puſhed their cruelty ſo far as to torture, in a thouſand ways, the old men, the women, and the children, in order to make them confeſs the place where their money was concealed. This ſcene of horror laſted a whole night. The veſſel which had brought theſe Mainots, ſet ſail the next morning without the inhabitants of ARGENTIERA, who were unarmed, being able to do any thing more than deplore their melancholy deſtiny, and to addreſs prayers to Heaven that theſe robbers might be ſwallowed up, with all their booty, by the foaming billows.

The Mainots, or Magnots, are Greeks who inhabit the ſouth part of the MOREA, the environs of SPARTA, and more particularly the part which extends from MISITRA to Cape MATAPAN. Feeble remains of the Lacedæmonians, they are as ardent as their anceſtors in defending their liberty, and in maintaining their independence. The Turks have ſometimes obtained a trifling tribute from them, without ever having been able to ſubdue them entirely. Cultivators or ſhepherds, mariners or pirates, according to wants and circumſtances, they are always ready to quit the ſmall towns which they occupy on the Gulfs of CORON and of COLOKYTHIA, for the purpoſe of penetrating into the interior of the country, and eſtabliſhing themſelves on the mountains.

With this energy, and this love of liberty, one regrets to ſee among them robbers, who, not content with making war on the Turks that have unjuſtly diſpoſſeſſed them of a part of their territory, alſo go ſometimes to plunder the unfortunate Greeks of the ſmall iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO,

whom a ſame intereſt and a ſame religion ſhould rather unite againſt their common enemies.

ARGENTIERA, anciently known under the name of *CIMOLIS*, received the name that it bears at this day on our charts, from a mine of ſilver, which is ſaid to have been worked a long time with ſucceſs. In the intention of ſatisfying our curioſity in this reſpect, we queſtioned the agent of the Republic, the primates, and ſome of the inhabitants. They all anſwered us, that they had, indeed, heard the old men ſpeak of it, but that the thunder-bolt which had fallen on it, had no longer left any traces of it. The reſearches which we made on this ſubject, during our ſtay in the iſland, were fruitleſs: we ſaw nothing that had the ſmalleſt appearance of a mine; ſo that we ſhould doubt its exiſtence, if the awkward anſwer of the inhabitants had appeared to us dictated only by the intereſt which they have in concealing it from the Turks, who would be tempted, perhaps, to work it, if it came to their knowledge; which would attract them to the iſland, and be a perpetual cauſe of extortion.

The hiſtory of this iſland is confounded with that of MILO, whoſe lot it has always followed, and to which it is, beſides, very near. It is little more than eighteen miles in circumference, and its population is two hundred ſouls. Arid, mountainous, and volcanic, neither plains, vallies, nor watered lands, are to be ſeen throughout its whole extent; nor any thing, in a word, that can render it an abode in the leaſt agreeable to the inhabitants. Some ſcattered vines, very few olive and mulberry trees, a great many uncultivated lands, very few which are fit for the culture of barley, wheat, and cotton: this is what ARGENTIERA at firſt preſents to the eye of the traveller; but the trace of the ſubterraneous fires which have acted on it, ſometimes with ſlowneſs, ſometimes in a violent manner, merit, no doubt, to fix for a few moments the attention of the naturaliſt.

The

The town is ſituated on a rock of red porphyry, very little changed by the action of fire. The texture of this porphyry is hard, and yet ſuſceptible of a tolerably handſome poliſh; but the felſpar, which is diſſeminated in it in little white points, is partly decompoſed. In the environs are found other porphyries of a bright green and of a dark green, not ſo beautiful nor ſo hard as the preceding. To the weſt and to the ſouth of the town are ſeen every where rocks of porphyry, white or reddiſh, more or leſs decompoſed. That which has attained the laſt degree of decompoſition, is friable, ſoft to the touch, and by no means ponderous: it is eaſily divided in water, and appears to have on linen and on cloths the properties of the beſt fuller's earth. It is this which the ancients knew and diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Cimolian* earth, or earth of CIMOLIS *.

Mariners who land on this iſland, as well as the inhabitants, make uſe of this earth by way of ſoap, and obtain from it the ſame reſults. They prefer, however, that which is taken from the bottom of the ſea, in the road itſelf, becauſe it is more pure, diſſolves more quickly in water, and gets the dirt out of linen much better than the other †.

* Citizen VAUQUELIN, member of the National Inſtitute, a very diſtinguiſhed chemiſt, to whom I communicated a ſpecimen of this earth, analyzed it. Out of one hundred parts he found:

1. Silex	- - - - -	79 parts;
2. Alumine	- - - -	5
3. Lime	- - - - -	4
4. Muriat of ſoda	- - -	2
5. Water	- - - -	10
	Total	100.

† This yielded to Citizen VAUQUELIN, out of a hundred parts:

1. Silex	- - - - - 68
2. Alumine	- - - - 20
3. Muriat of ſoda	- - - 5
4. Water	- - - - 7
	100.

The Cimolian earth, taken from the rock which I have juſt mentioned, preſents, when broken, the portion of trap diſtinct from felſpar. There are ſeen in it a few ſpiculæ of black ſchorl, not decompoſed; and what leaves no doubt reſpecting the origin of this rock, is, that it may be traced through all the alterations which it has undergone, from the beautiful red porphyry, almoſt entire, to the laſt ſtate of decompoſition of which I have ſpoken.

No rock here appears overthrown by the action of fire; thoſe which are cleft at a great depth, on a ſloping ground, are always in a great maſs, and never preſent ſtrata nor banks; while, in the other parts of the iſland, to the north-weſt, for example, every where are ſeen regular ſtrata, fragments of rocks of various nature, more or leſs altered, and mixed with volcanic aſhes, ſolid or porous lava. Here are to be perceived ſtrata of pumice-ſtones, the greater part of which are in duſt.

It is very evident that a part of the iſland has been formerly changed by the ſlow and imperceptible action of ſubterraneous fires, or by the vapours which they have raiſed, as we ſhall preſently ſee at MILO, and that the other has been covered by the ſubſtances which a volcano has ejected and depoſited in regular ſtrata, as is in like manner to be ſeen at MILO, and particularly at SANTORIN.

The day after our arrival at CIMOLIS, the primates conducted us upwards of half a league from the town, on the weſt ſide of the iſland, to a place in the vicinity of the ſea, where we perceived fragments of bricks and potter's ware, which would have ſufficiently indicated to us the poſition of the ancient town, if tradition, among the inhabitants, could have left us any doubt in this reſpect. On a bank of lava of a yellowiſh gray, which would, at firſt ſight, be taken for a clay loaded with ſaline ſubſtances, we ſaw about forty ditches dug beſide each other, and a little farther, on a hillock of

the ſame nature, other ditches, which appeared to us to have been recently dug: the latter contained charcoal, human bones burnt, and fragments of earthen veſſels. On one of the ſides of this hillock was a ſquare opening, which led us to a grotto, where we found four ſimple ſarcophagi of unequal ſize, of a white porphyric lava, ſomewhat hard, and yet eaſy enough to be hewn. Their lid was wanting; but they were, in other reſpects, in tolerably good preſervation: they were five or ſix feet in length, by two or two and a half in breadth. The grotto had the form of a long ſquare, fifteen feet in depth, before which was a ſquare veſtibule eight feet in width.

This diſcovery gave us the idea of having the earth dug above the hillock, in the places where the ground echoed under our feet, and appeared not to have been moved. Our attempt was ſucceſsful: the firſt ſtrokes of the ſpade procured us ſome rude figures of baked earth, in rather bad preſervation, ſuch as a toad, a ſphynx, and a cock, as well as a ſmall vaſe with a handle, in the Etruſcan ſtyle. As it was late, and we had with us only one man whom the primates had had the civility to order to come from a neighbouring field, we reſolved to confine ourſelves for that day to our firſt trials, and to return the next day with twenty workmen, in order to turn up all the hillock, and endeavour to diſcover ſome catacomb, into which no one had penetrated before us.

The captain of the veſſel on board of which we had come to CIMOLIS, prevailed on us to embark in his boat; which ſaved us from the diſagreeable neceſſity of going on foot or of riding, as the day before, on aſſes which neither had bridles nor halters, and on which had been put, by way of ſaddles, very inconvenient pack-ſaddles, furniſhed with four longitudinal pieces of wood, ſuch as we had ſeen in almoſt all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

When we had doubled the cape the neareſt to MILO, about eight o'clock in the morning, the north wind, which was contrary to us, and a ſea a little too rough for a common boat, obliged us to land near this cape, in a place where we found, at ſome toiſes above the level of the ſea, a ſtratum of earth containing foſſil ſhells, half decompoſed, of the genus *Perna*, ſimilar to thoſe of PIEDMONT, drawn by LANGIUS, the analogy of which is not known to naturaliſts. Theſe ſhells are very thick: the two valves are frequently found together, but almoſt always broken and in bad condition.

As it was already late, we quickened our pace, in order to diſpoſe, as ſoon as poſſible, of our labourers, according to the plan of digging that we wiſhed to execute. We cauſed ſome to clear away the earth from a catacomb which we ſuſpected to find at a little diſtance from that which we had ſeen the day before. The others dug on the hillock itſelf where we had already found ſome figures.

The catacomb being entirely laid open, we ſaw, at the extremity, nothing but a ſarcophagus cut in the bank of lava, and a vaſe of coarſe potter's ware, with a narrow neck, which was broken through the awkwardneſs of one of the labourers. Thoſe who were at work on the hillock, dug in ſeveral ditches, to the depth of three feet, without finding any thing but aſhes, coals, ſome remains of bones, and fragments of earthen veſſels of every form and every ſize. We regretted exceedingly, among others, a large brown vaſe, in the Etruſcan ſtyle, on which were ſeveral figures of men painted red. We made ſome farther attempts in the environs without diſcovering any thing intereſting.

On the following days, we learnt that all this ground had been dug repeatedly, at one while by the inhabitants of the iſland, who thought to find there treaſures buried by their anceſtors; at another, by ſome traveller, whom curioſity

curioſity had, like ourſelves, brought into the iſland. Citizen FAUVEL, whom we ſaw a few years after at ATHENS, told us that he had alſo had people to dig in various places at CIMOLIS, by order of M. DE CHOISEUL, then ambaſſador at CONSTANTINOPLE; which had procured him ſome pieces of coin, and ſome ornaments for the uſe of women.

Independently of tradition; of the ſepulchres, and of the fragments of brick and potter's ware, which indicate, in an inconteſtable manner, the ſite of the ancient town, there are on the coaſt, in this place, works ſomewhat conſiderable: cuts, canals in the bank of lava, probably for the purpoſe of affording a paſſage to boats; and caves for ſheltering them from the rain and ſun. Two or three hundred toiſes from the ſea, are ſeen caverns dug by the hand of man in a ſtratum of pumice-ſtone, which, in all probability, have been places of habitation, or interment, at different epochs which hiſtory has paſſed over in ſilence. We ſhall frequently have occaſion to ſpeak of ſimilar caverns in the courſe of our travels, and to preſent our conjectures on that ſubject.

The inhabitants of this iſland are ſo diſtreſſed, that they have very often ſome difficulty to pay 15 or 1600 piaſtres impoſt which the captain-pacha levies annually on them. Cotton is almoſt the only article that produces them any money. The women are employed, during the whole year, when the labours of the country permit, in ſpinning cotton with a wheel, ſometimes with a diſtaff, and in knitting ſtockings for the Europeans. Mariners find, in all ſeaſons, hogs, poultry, and eggs, to be purchaſed for the ſupply of their veſſels; they alſo find ſometimes pleaſures which detain them too long in the roadſtead, and make them forget their duty as well as the intereſts of their owners.

The

The dreſs of the women (*See* PLATE *XI.*) is as remarkable in this iſland as in almoſt all the CYCLADES: the petticoat does not reach the knee; the ſhift ſcarcely comes to the middle of the leg, and diſplays a wide pair of breeches faſtened on the one hand to the waiſt, and on the other below the knee: the legs are covered with two pairs of ſtockings, ſtuffed in ſuch a manner that they appear ſwelled. The neck is concealed under a corſet quilted and ſtiffened with whalebone; a piece of velvet, ſattin, or cloth, trimmed with gold or ſilver net-lace, or ſet off by a ſimple embroidery, adorns their whole front; and, in their gala dreſs, two wide ſleeves are fixed to the corſet, and fall on each ſide to the middle of the thigh. In ſummer, all the arm is covered only by the ſleeve of the ſhift. The head is enveloped with a handkerchief, which paſſes under the chin, and leaves fully expoſed to view a face not unfrequently handſome.

POLINO, commonly known under the name of *BURNT ISLAND*, preſents the ſame organization as CIMOLIS. Every where are ſeen porphyries decompoſed, rocks white or reddiſh; every where traces of the volcano which has acted on it and on the neighbouring iſlands. Situated to the ſouth-eaſt of CIMOLIS, and to the eaſt north-eaſt of MILO, it is by no means extenſive, but deſert, and entirely deprived of water. Although it is covered with graſs and ſhrubs, the inhabitants of CIMOLIS dare not ſuffer their flocks to graze there, becauſe they are perſuaded that the ſerpents, which are there very numerous, would ſoon occaſion their death; and, nevertheleſs, they acknowledge that there are to be found in POLINO wild goats, which multiply abundantly, and brave the venom of thoſe reptiles.

It was intereſting to know whether there were in fact wild goats in that iſland, and whether the ſerpents, which were there to be met with, were as dangerous as the inhabitants of CIMOLIS told us. We reſolved, in conſequence,

A. Caraffe del. Neagle sculp.

WOMEN OF ARGENTIERA.

ſequence, to make a ſhooting party on the 27th of Meſſidor (15th of July), and to take with us two Greeks that were pointed out as very capable of ſeconding us. The primates announced to us jeſtingly, that there exiſted among them a law, by which no one could ſhoot on POLINO without their permiſſion, and without delivering to them, on their return, half of the game. "We willingly ſubmit," ſaid we to them, "to this law; we will "keep nothing but the ſkin of the quadrupeds that we ſhall kill, and we "will give you all the reſt." This, as will preſently be ſeen, was *counting the chickens before they were hatched.*

Citizen BRUGUIE'RE, little accuſtomed to the fatigues of ſuch a ſhooting party, contented himſelf with herborizing, and with picking up a few ſeeds and ſome land-ſhells, while I ſeveral times traverſed the moſt rugged places of the iſland. My guides, like two dogs, hunted every where, examined all the rocks, ran into all the buſhes, and diſplayed an ardour worthy of better ſucceſs. Indeed, they put up ſome of the quadrupeds which we were in queſt of, but I never could get at them: frequently even I could not ſee them among the rocks which they inhabit. I more than once diſcharged my piece at them loaded with ball, from a very great diſtance, without doing them any injury. In theſe pretended goats, I thought I recognized the *argali**, which is known to be common in CRETE, in NAXOS, and in all the ſouth of EUROPE.

Our chace after ſerpents was more ſucceſsful: I cut one in two by a muſket-ball: towards the evening, our guides caught another of a different ſpecies, which belongs to the genus *Boa* of LINNÆUS; but we could not diſcover the viper for which we were looking, and which is to be found in more or leſs plenty in all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

* *Capra ammon.* LINN.—*T.*

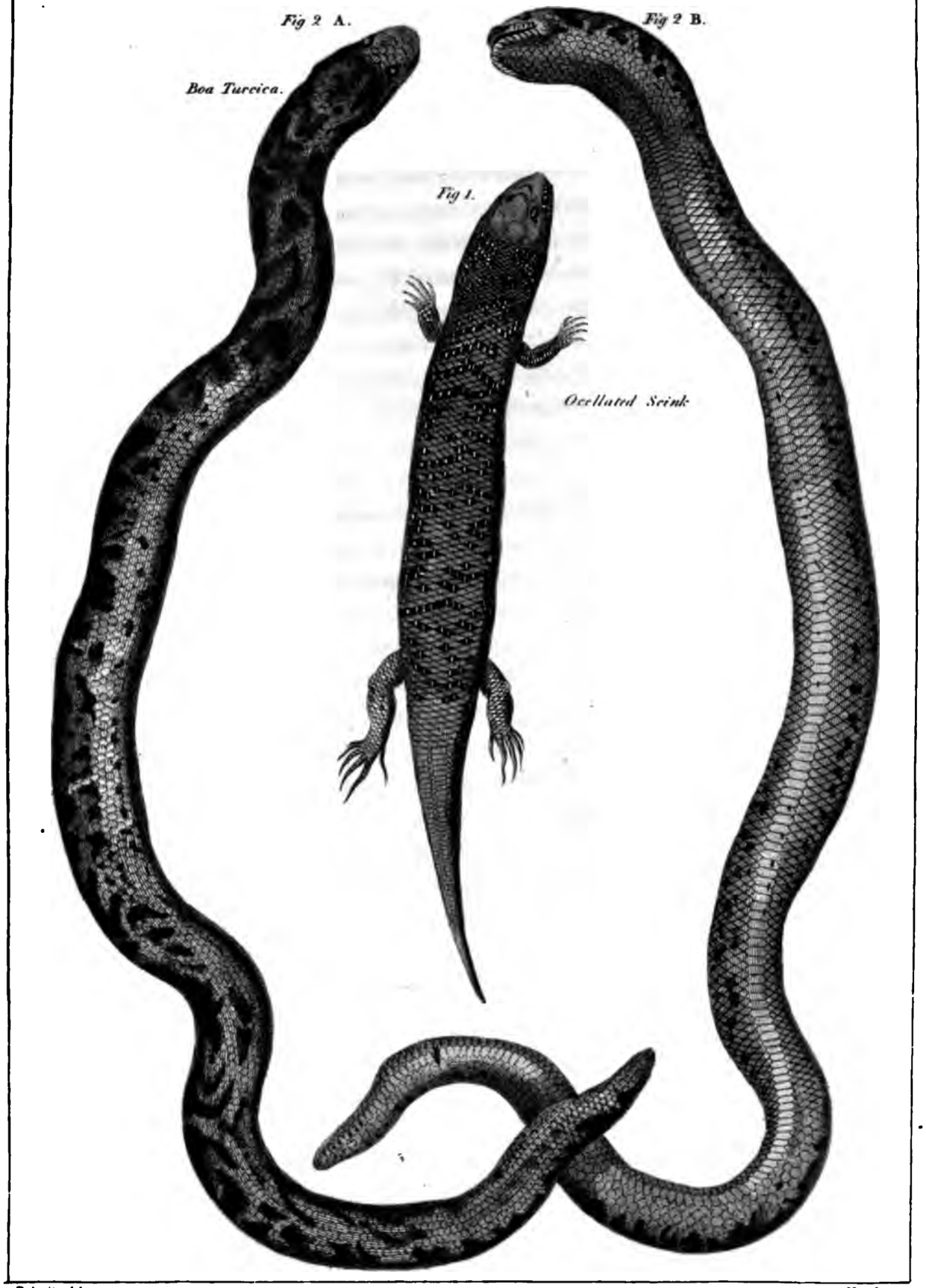
The

The boa, (*Plate XVI. fig. 2. A. B.*) has a cylindrical body, of a yellow gray, marked with a number of irregular blackiſh ſpots. The head is oval, and obtuſe; the ſnout is formed by a triangular ſcale, broad and ſhort; the two ſcales which come next, are likewiſe broad and ſhort: thoſe which cover the body, are ſmall, round, equal, almoſt hexagonal, and ſmooth: the abdominal ones, to the number of one hundred and ſeventy-two, are ſhort and narrow. The eyes are ſmall and ſunk in the head. The tongue is forked, and the under lip is rounded. The tail is obtuſe and very ſhort. The caudal ſcales are twenty-two in number*.

The mouth of this boa is not provided with fangs; which muſt occaſion it to be placed among the ſpecies which are not venomous.

* Boa turcica *griſeo-flaveſcens, cauda breviſſima, ſcutis dorſalibus minimis rotundatilis ſub hexagonis.*

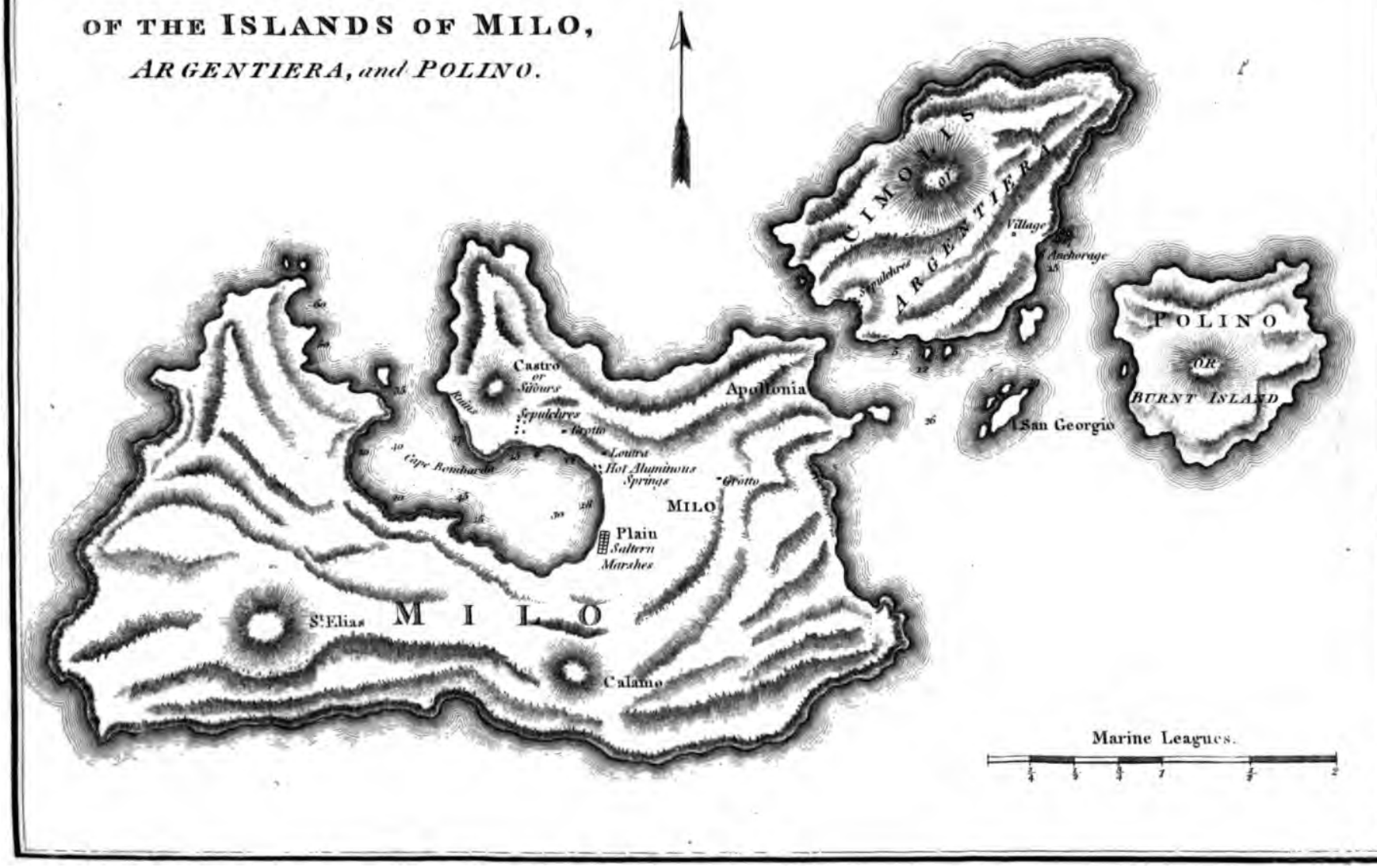
CHAPTER



Delarive del. Neagle sc.

REPTILES OF THE ISLANDS OF THE ARCHIPELAGO.

PLAN
OF THE ISLANDS OF MILO,
ARGENTIERA, and POLINO.



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Neele Sculp. 352 Strand.

CHAPTER IX.

Arrival at Milo.—*Deſcription of that iſland.—Its volcano, its grottoes, its mineral waters.—Situation of the ancient town.—A number of catacombs which are to be found in its environs.*

We departed from Cimolis on the 28th of Meſſidor (16th of July) with the boat deſtined to keep up a communication with Milo, and to convey perſons who repair rather frequently from the one iſland to the other. In an hour and a half, we landed in the quarter called *Apollonia*, where mules, which the primates of Cimolis had beſpoke of thoſe of Milo, had been waiting for us for ſome time. The paſſage is about two leagues, though the diſtance is not a mile between the neareſt points of the two iſlands.

The coaſt on which we landed, preſented to us a tolerably ſolid bank of yellowiſh earth, ſtrewn with three ſpecies of foſſil echini, with petrified terebratulæ, and with ſeveral fragments of ſhells. In the environs, were pumice-ſtones and various lava. Grottoes, dug by the hand of man, are rather common on this coaſt, and ſeem to indicate that there were formerly habitations in this part of the iſland: they have been formed, as at Cimolis, in a ſtratum of pumice-ſtone eaſy enough to be worked.

It took us upwards of three hours to reach the town by a bad road Every thing that offered itſelf to us was volcanic. We ſaw every where porphyries more or leſs decompoſed, white earths, ſomewhat ſimilar to thoſe of Cimolis; gray lava, ponderous, and in large maſſes: we perceived in

ſome places indications of ſmall-grained iron-ore, and veins of ponderous ſpar, mixed with a red earth: we croſſed hills uncultivated, dry, and arid: we went into a gorge of rather rapid deſcent, where enormous rocks of lava, ſuſpended over our heads, threatened every moment to bury us by their fall. We at length diſcovered a tolerably handſome plain, in the midſt of which was a town which, a ſhort time ſince, was not inferior to any other of the ARCHIPELAGO; but which, at this day, ſcarcely preſents any thing but ruins.

On entering it, we were ſtruck at ſeeing on all ſides houſes fallen in, men bloated, conſumptive faces, ambulating corpſes. Every where the image of deſtruction and of death offered itſelf to our eyes. Scarcely do forty families, the greater part foreigners, drag on their unfortunate exiſtence in a town which ſtill reckoned five thouſand inhabitants within its walls at the beginning of the laſt century.

TOURNEFORT had diſcovered, in 1700, that the air of MILO was unwholeſome, and that the inhabitants were very ſubject to dangerous diſorders; but this inſalubrity of the air muſt have increaſed very much ſince that epoch, either through the effect of the ſtagnant waters which lie between the town and the head of the harbour, or through the pernicious exhalations which are inceſſantly riſing to the eaſt and to the ſouth, from a ſoil acted on by ſubterraneous fires. To theſe cauſes of infection and mortality, may be added the bad quality of the well and ciſtern waters of which the unfortunate inhabitants of this iſland are obliged to make uſe.

Although this was not the moſt unwholeſome ſeaſon of the year, we had, nevertheleſs, been apprized of the danger that there was in ſleeping two or three nights in the town; which determined us to go that very evening to the

the monaſtery of St. Marino, *Ayia Marina*, ſituated at a little diſtance from Mount St. Elias.

We proceeded for half an hour in the part of the plain which extends from the town to the ſea; we paſſed along ſome marſhes, and a ſaltern of little extent; we followed the ſteep ſhores of the ſouth coaſt of the harbour; we afterwards croſſed a ſmall arid plain, formerly cultivated, ſtrewn with fragments of pumice-ſtone; then gaining higher ground, and ſtill following a weſterly direction, we ſaw banks of white, volcanic earth, ſomewhat ſimilar to thoſe of Cimolis, which were ſucceeded by conſiderable ſhelves of granites charged with vitreous points. The whole ground is covered with little grains of glaſs, which detach themſelves from theſe granites with tolerable facility.

The traces of the road were not very eaſily diſtinguiſhed, ſo rugged and uniform was the ground: our mules had ſome difficulty to keep their feet on it. It was curious to ſee theſe animals get over the worſt paſſes without ever ſtumbling. Sometimes almoſt erect on their crupper, they ſpring forward on lofty rocks, almoſt perpendicular, and ſometimes they deſcend ſteep declivities, if not with the ſame agility, at leaſt with the ſame preciſion. The only danger that you have to run, in making uſe of theſe animals, proceeds leſs from them than from their conductors. The latter, accuſtomed to prick them with a ſpur with which their ſtick is armed, cannot preſent themſelves on one ſide without the frightened animal wiſhing to ſpring on the other. In whatever ſituation you may happen to be, theſe conductors are ſo inattentive, ſo heedleſs, that, frequently ſpurring their mules unſeaſonably, they are the cauſe of their wincing on the brinks of the precipices which you have under your feet, and occaſion to the rider a fright ſtill greater than the danger.

We were advancing acroſs theſe accumulated rocks: we had on our right the harbour, whoſe extent we were completely meaſuring; beyond, the village of *Castro*, or *Sifours*, ſeated on the ſummit of a lofty, pyramidal hill. Before us, Mount St. Elias ſhewed itſelf almoſt entirely to our eyes*. We croſſed another bank of very hard and very ponderous lava, of a blackiſh gray, after which we found ourſelves on an earthy ſoil, whence we diſcovered the monaſtery where we had reſolved to paſs the night.

A quarter of a league from the monaſtery, we ſaw a beautiful gypſum extracted from a ſtratum of deep earth, mixed with volcanic aſhes, fragments of pumice-ſtone, and puzzolana. This earthy ſtratum extended to a conſiderable diſtance, and, in ſeveral places, exhibited excavations from which plaſter-ſtone had in like manner been extracted at different periods.

The friars received us very well, and treated us in their beſt manner. In their houſe we drank very good water, as well as excellent wine; and though they live poorly all the year, and ſubſiſt generally on cheeſe, olives, ſnails, legumes, and fruits, we found there poultry, eggs, herbs, and delicious honey: at the ſame time they ſet before us oranges, apricots, plums, and grapes. Under their roof one may eat excellent mutton, lamb, and kids. The milk there is very good, game abundant, and what is better, no doubt, the air, in this part of the iſland, is very pure and very wholeſome. The ruddy face of theſe caloyers manifeſted ſufficiently that the noxious exhalations of the plain could not reach them.

The next morning, at ſun-riſe, we went to take a walk with the ſuperior round the monaſtery. We ſaw paſſing ſome oxen, which were going to graze

* It is much farther to the weſt than it is laid down on the chart of M. de Choiseul.

on the ſtubble. A flock of ſheep was browſing on the circumjacent mountains, and at the ſame time a tolerably great number of goats were on their way to the neighbouring woods. The barley and wheat had been cut for a long time; a part was already trodden out and put by; the other was ſoon to follow it. We traverſed ſome vineyards, ſome orchards of olive-trees, and ſome fields covered with cotton. The grapes were beginning to turn black, the olive-trees appeared loaded with fruit, and the cotton promiſed a good crop.

On receding from the cultivated fields, we again found every where volcanic productions, and nearly the ſame plants that we had ſeen in the other iſlands; the prickly prinpinella, thymes, creeping wild thymes, ſavories, rock-roſes, arbutuſes, myrtles, and lentiſks. We collected ſome ſeeds and ſome land-ſhells, after which we returned home. The ſuperior carried us into the garden: ſome friars, in order to water it, had repaired thither as ſoon as it was day-break: it was ſpacious, and kept in tolerably good order: a part was planted with orange-trees, lemon-trees, cedrats or bergamot citron-trees, fig-trees, and ſeveral other fruit-trees; the other part was intended for garden-ground.

It was time to breakfaſt and depart. There was ſerved up to us a kid ſtuffed with meat and bacon cut ſmall, with pine kernels, raiſins, and rice: next was brought a pilau made with a very fat hen, then honey, preſerved ſweet-meats made of bergamot-citron, and the ſame kind of fruits as the day before. We were regaled with delicious white wine and excellent coffee. We would willingly have paſſed a few months with theſe worthy friars, had we not had other countries to ſee, other regions to traverſe. We took leave of them when we had viſited their church, and left in the baſin wherewith to remunerate them for the civilities which we had received.

It required upwards of three hours for us to arrive at the town where we wiſhed to ſleep, as well for the purpoſe of obſerving the aluminous grottoes of the environs, as of repairing to the volcano of *Calamo*, of which no traveller, I believe, has made mention. We paſſed this night, as well as the following, in a ſpacious chamber, where we evaporated by degrees, over hot aſhes, ſome very good vinegar, which we had brought from the monaſtery of St. Marino. This precaution always proved fortunate to us, when we were obliged to make any ſtay in marſhy and unwholeſome countries. Had we not neglected it at the moment when we were on the point of beholding again our natal land, death, perhaps, would not have ſurpriſed us; I ſhould not, perhaps, have to regret, at this moment, my fellow-traveller and the beſt of my friends.

On the 30th of Meſſidor (18th of July), we repaired to the mountain of *Calamo*, ſituated to the ſouth ſouth-weſt of the town. It is not very lofty, and the road leading to it is leſs rugged than that which we had travelled the preceding day. When we quitted the plain, we found lands uncultivated, volcanic, and mixed with fragments of pumice-ſtone: they appear to have been abandoned recently, to judge of them from the houſes half-deſtroyed which are there met with, and the ſtone-vats in ruins which are to be found in moſt of the fields. This excurſion took us an hour and a half. Before we arrived at the ſummit, we were apprized of the vicinity of ſome volcanic apertures by the odour of ſulphur, which all at once ſtruck our olfactory nerves.

A little below the conical ſummit of this mountain, is perceived a rent of a hundred paces in extent, which has been effected in the middle of a rock of heavy, ferruginous lava; it is flat, and covered with a ſaline cruſt, which echoes under the feet, and in which you ſink ſometimes to the middle of the leg. There are ſeen ſome crevices, whence iſſues a very fetid ſmoke; and

and in whatever place you dig, the heat is ſo powerful, that it would be impoſſible to hold your hand there at the depth of a foot. If you remove the cruſt, you ſee ſulphur ſublimated into yellow ſpiculæ, ſo eaſy to be broken, that you cannot preſerve them.

There alſo riſes ſome ſmoke from the clefts of the neighbouring rocks. A few paces from this ſpot we found another mouth, which preſented to us incruſtations of a hard white matter, ſimilar to Cimolian earth, more or leſs charged with alum. We ſaw there others, at a little diſtance, preſenting the ſame ſubſtances: preſently we were ſurrounded by ſmoke-vents. We ſaw around us different openings, whence iſſued a ſmell ſo ſulphureous and fetid, that we could ſcarcely breathe. The heat of the ground was very ſenſibly felt: we both ſunk at the ſame moment, and we thought ourſelves ſwallowed up. Neither ſervants nor guides had dared to follow us. We were aware of our imprudence, and we haſtened to leave the place.

We do not imagine that we diſcovered all the openings by which the ſmoke eſcapes; but we are well aſſured that the mountain is conſiderably heated towards its ſummit; that this heat, which is burning in certain places, is very moderate in ſome others, and that it is, in general, more perceptible wherever there is any conſiderable rent or fiſſure. A particularity which we remarked, is that the ſummit of the mountain preſents a ſchiſtoſe ſtratum of about a toiſe in thickneſs, which has not experienced the action of fire.

We amuſed ourſelves in ſcratching up the earth in ſeveral places; and we found, at the depth of a few inches, a white earth, warm and moiſt, which may be kneaded at pleaſure: it is of the ſame nature as Cimolian earth,

earth, and, like it, exhibits trap ſtill diſtinct from felſpar *. We thruſt down our canes every where with the greateſt facility, and without ever finding the ſmalleſt obſtacle. It is not to be doubted here that Cimolian earth is a decompoſition of the rock of porphyry itſelf, ſlowly attacked by heat and the ſaline and ſulphureous evaporations which riſe from the boſom of the mountain.

We ſaw, a little lower, ſtrata of different nature, lava ponderous and ferruginous, fragments of pumice-ſtone, ochreous earths mixed, gray volcanic aſhes, very fine and very light, which made us conjecture that the exploſions which have taken place at the ſummit, are very ancient, and that they may be dated, perhaps, from the period when MILO, CIMOLIS, and POLINO, were at the ſame time ſubject to the action of the ſame ſubterraneous fires. The decompoſition which the lava of CALAMO has experienced, is already in a very advanced ſtate, and reſembles that which is to be remarked in every part of the iſland. The upper ſtrata are, in a great meaſure reſolved into an earthy ſtate. Gypſum has already been formed in ſome of theſe ſtrata, and thoſe which ſtill have any ſolidity, are very ferruginous, and little different, as to appearance, from the ſcoriæ of iron.

We returned to dine at MILO; and, in the evening, we went to viſit the quarter where is formed plumoſe alum, of which the ancients and

* The analyſis of this earth gave Citizen VAUQUELIN, on a hundred parts:

1. Silex	66
2. Alumine	20
3. Oxyde of iron	1
4. Lime	4
5. Muriat of ſoda	2
6. Water	6
Loſs	1
	100

moderns

moderns have equally ſpoken. It is a quarter of a league from the town, in nearly an eaſterly direction. At a diſtance are perceived the great banks of whitiſh earth, in which ſeveral openings have been made at different periods for the extraction of alum; but ſeveral of them have been cloſed, or have fallen in of themſelves, owing to the bad manner in which the mines have been worked, and there is but one at preſent into which a perſon can enter. It is very probable that the grotto mentioned by TOURNEFORT, no longer exiſts at this day, ſince the deſcription which he gives of it, cannot agree with that into which we ourſelves entered.

Its opening is two feet ſquare: it is ſituated at the foot of a ſteep declivity, on which we found cryſtals of gypſum grouped, of a particular form, which Citizen HAÜY has named *gypſe laminiforme* (laminated or plate gypſum). After having pulled off our coats, and lighted our tapers, we ſlid down a ſlope obſtructed partly by detached earth. The grotto afterwards riſes and grows wider, and, as you deſcend lower, the heat becomes ſtronger and ſtronger. We placed a thermometer at the bottom to aſcertain the degree of it, and we employed ourſelves very quickly in examining the ſides of the grotto, in order to get out of it with all expedition; for we experienced ſome difficulty in breathing, although our tapers conſtantly gave us a very bright light.

All the inſide appears to be nothing but a white, friable earth, ſtrongly charged with alum. The ſides are clothed with a ſaline cruſt more or leſs thick: in different places are to be remarked cryſtals of gypſum, called *gypſe aciculaire* (acicular gypſum) by Citizen HAÜY, united or grouped in beautiful white ſpiculæ, eight or nine lines long. There are alſo to be ſeen ſaline laminæ under a different form, and which, at firſt ſight, reſemble very fine carded cotton, that might have been, as it were, glued againſt the walls of the grotto. The microſcope ſhews very ſmall ſpiculæ of alum,

diſpoſed in various directions. If you detach this ſaline cruſt, it eaſily breaks, and exhibits very looſe filaments, united in bundles from one to ten, twelve, or fifteen lines in length. This is what the ancients and the moderns have called *alumen plumoſum*, or plumoſe alum: ſome of the ſame is found in a few of the volcanoes of ITALY; and, according to PLINY, ſome formerly came from EGYPT.

Plumoſe alum is eaſily diſtinguiſhed from the cryſtals of gypſum which are in the ſame grotto, not only by ſimple inſpection, the one being in the form of needles, and the other in very looſe filaments, cloſely confined, but alſo by putting them on the tongue: theſe laſt are inſipid, while the other has a taſte of alum, which is ſenſibly perceived.

We remained not more than five minutes in the grotto: we came out of it bathed with ſweat, with an extreme want of breathing the open air. After reſting a few moments, I went to fetch the thermometer which I had placed at the bottom: it indicated thirty degrees of heat.

The inhabitants told us, that all the part ſituated to the eaſt, and to the ſouth of the town, is hot to a certain depth. They ſpoke to us of grottoes, whence there iſſues ſmoke, and of others where is found a liquor extremely acrid and ſalt, of which TOURNEFORT gives ſome details. Alum makes its appearance every where, while ſulphur ſhews itſelf only in a few places.

On the firſt of Thermidor (the 19th of July), we went to ſee the public baths called *LOUTRA*, ſituated at the bottom of a riſing ground near the highway which leads from the town to the roadſtead. You enter by ſtooping into a natural grotto, and you arrive by two narrow, difficult paſſages, at a ſpacious hall, where you find a baſin of hot water ſtrongly charged with alum

alum and marine ſalt. Theſe two ſalts are united and cryſtallized throughout the inſide of this hall. Although it is very hot there, we, nevertheleſs, breathed without any great difficulty, and we think that a perſon may paſs a few hours without ſuffering, either in this natural vapour-bath, or in the water of the baſin.

The Greeks formerly flocked from all the CYCLADES to make uſe of theſe waters, in moſt diſorders of the ſkin, as well as in rheumatiſm and palſy. Theſe baths were alſo for a long time frequented by perſons affected with any venereal complaint. They are nearly deſerted ſince the iſland has loſt its population, and ſince the harbour ſcarcely receives any more ſhips.

A hundred paces from this ſpot is found, on the ſea-ſhore, towards the place where the country-barks caſt anchor, a very copious ſpring of hot water, which iſſues from different places, and ſome portions of which are ſeen to ſpout out even into the ſea. It is ſo hot that a perſon cannot hold his hand in it, and its extremely acrid flavour announces that it is ſtrongly impregnated with alum and marine ſalt, as well as the preceding.

On quitting theſe ſprings, and directing our ſteps to the north, we gained the heights, and, after half an hour's walk, we arrived at the opening of four very ſpacious grottoes, which now ſerve as a retreat for flocks. At firſt are perceived the traces of a conſiderable depreſſion of the earth, which has taken place at their entrance, and which has diſcovered the part that ſerved them as a veſtibule. There are ſtill to be remarked the traces of the ſtaircaſe which afforded the means of deſcending thither, and the walls of the interior preſent ſquare cavities, clothed with cement, which one would imagine to have been intended for containing water. The rock is gray, volcanic, porous, and appears to have been half-vitrified. On the right face of the firſt grotto, is ſeen a gallery five or ſix feet high, by about three

wide, which admits of deſcending by ſeveral diviſions into the inſide of the ſubterraneous cavern. As you proceed, you find, to the right and left, chambers from eight to ten feet ſquare, the uſe of which it is difficult to divine. This firſt gallery is not always ſtraight: ſometimes it runs winding, ſometimes it riſes in an oblique line, and ſometimes it communicates with other galleries dug three or four feet lower; which ought to be carefully remarked by thoſe who entangle themſelves in theſe places, for they would run the riſk of getting dangerous falls if they went without precaution, and without, as it were, feeling their way.

We had for ſome time been examining theſe gloomy windings, with a flambeau in our hand, when we were ſtopped all at once by a wall in maſonry, which had probably been erected for the purpoſe of intercepting all communication with the reſt of the cavern. It required a ſledge hammer and a great deal of time to make a hole and ſurmount this obſtacle. The road roſe behind this wall, and conducted us to a large chamber which communicated, on its right, by a door, with another room of the ſame ſize, and by four ſquare openings, made in the thickneſs of the intermediate partition. Theſe laſt are at the height of two feet: they are dug in the form of a trough or rather of a manger, and the angles of the jams have been pierced as if for the purpoſe of paſſing through them the halter of the animals that might have there been tied up to eat.

On the ſides of theſe two chambers, are to be remarked projections in the form of brackets, which ſeem to have been intended for ſupporting lamps for lighting them. There are likewiſe ſeen niches of different ſizes, the intention of which appears to have been to receive ſome piece of furniture or ſome articles of daily uſe. We made many more turnings and windings, and we came out of this ſubterraneous cavern with the perſuaſion that it has ſerved as a place of habitation to men at a period, perhaps, when the inha-

bitants of the iſland, few in number, were obliged to conceal themſelves, in order to avoid pirates or enemies who threatened their property and their life.

In this cavern, we experienced no other heat than that of all cellars: we there ſaw no trace of alum: every where the walls were very dry, and we breathed there with the greateſt facility.

After having in vain made ſome attempts to learn from our guides, whether there were in the environs other grottoes or other ſubterraneous caverns worthy of remark, we continued our route in order to proceed to *Castro*, commonly called *Sifours* by the Provençal mariners, who have imagined that they found ſome reſemblance in the elevated poſition of this village, with that of the ſame name which lies in the environs of Toulon.

We ſaw a few lands cultivated, and many others which might with advantage be ſo, if the inhabitants were more numerous. We ſoon got on higher ground, and we reached the foot of the peak on the ſummit of which the village is built. Here the road is made acroſs rocks of baſaltes, ſlippery and almoſt inacceſſible, which ſeem always on the point of detaching themſelves in fragments. The village is dirty. The ſtreets, or rather the ladders of rocks which form the diviſions of them, are alſo dirty, covered with hogs and filth. No other than ciſtern water is to be found, and the ſmalleſt wind reſembles a hurricane. But all theſe diſadvantages are compenſated by the ſalubrity of the air that is breathed on this lofty peak. Among the old men that we ſaw there, one of them, a hundred and two years of age, enjoyed good health: his ruddy look and his ſupple and muſcular limbs ſtill announced ſeveral years of life.

The

The women of this village employ themſelves the whole year in knitting cotton ſtockings for the uſe of the country, and for that of the Europeans: they alſo make ſome coarſe calicoes for themſelves. The men cultivate the earth, or are mariners. Among them are reckoned fifteen pilots, for the ARCHIPELAGO and for SYRIA, who are employed by the ſhips of war belonging to the European powers that navigate theſe ſeas.

From this elevated ſpot, the eye reaches without obſtacle over a vaſt extent of ſea, and over ſome iſlands ſituated in the north part. It is ſaid, that, when the horizon is clear, you can even perceive, to the north-weſt, the mountains of the MOREA. You have a view of almoſt all the eaſtern-part of MILO. To the ſouth you diſtinguiſh all the windings of the roadſtead, and you have then before you an amphitheatre of hills and mountains clothed with verdure, and crowned by Mount ST. ELIAS, the moſt lofty point of the iſland.

When you have for ſome time enjoyed this majeſtic picture, the eye becomes fatigued; you wiſh to deſcend into the plain, and ſee near at hand, and in detail, other objects. On the 2d (20th of July) at break of day, on directing our route towards the roadſtead, we found to the ſouth ſouth-weſt of CASTRO, after half an hour's walk, ſome ruins which we judged to be thoſe of the ancient capital of the iſland. They extend to the environs of the ſea, towards the cape deſignated by ſeamen under the name of *BOMBARDA*. They conſiſt of a few portions of the walls of the town ſtill ſtanding, and ruins of ancient edifices which appeared to us to have belonged to temples, and laſtly of an encloſure of large high walls in dry ſtones, conſtructed in ſo ſubſtantial a manner, that they are in much better preſervation than thoſe built with mortar. In theſe walls have been employed blocks of a ſolid lava, irregularly cut, but the angles of which correſpond to each other

other with ſo much preciſion, that their junction forms an aſſemblage ſtriking from its ſimplicity and ſolidity.

In the middle of this encloſure riſes a natural hill, on whoſe ſummit there is at preſent a church of caloyers, which we conceive to have been built on the ruins of a temple. Independently of the ancient materials employed in the conſtruction of this modern church, there are ſtill ſeen ſome beautiful and entire pillars of granite, half buried in the ground, and ſome others ſmaller, but broken. In different places are perceived veſtiges of ancient habitations, fragments of brick and potter's ware, excavations made in the rock, the greater part of which, ſtill arched, and coated with cement, appear to have been ſo many ciſterns.

The ſite of the ancient town, called *Clima* by the modern Greeks, has neither been viſited by Tournefort, by M. de Choiseul, nor by any other traveller, ſince not one of them have ſpoken of it; chance led us thither, and to it too are we indebted for the diſcovery of the ſepulchres which are ſituated to the eaſt of theſe ruins.

After having paſſed a deep ravine, the hill which we met with was formed of a light white ſtone, partly vitrified, and ſomewhat ſimilar to pumice-ſtone. Here it was probably that the inhabitants of Milo had dug their burying-places at an epoch which is unknown to us. Whoever has ſeen the catacombs in the environs of Alexandria, will here diſcover the ſame genius and the ſame taſte which planned the former. Among them are to be found ſome, which entirely reſemble certain chambers of the catacombs of Egypt, where are ſeen pillars cut in tufa, façades ſculptured round ſarcophagi, and even garlands painted on the cement with which they were coated on the inſide. But thoſe of Milo are, in general, ſmaller than thoſe of Egypt, and we met but with one in this quarter, which was diſtri-

buted into ſeveral chambers, all ſo diſpoſed as to terminate at a common veſtibule.

As you proceed along the hill, the catacombs become more numerous. Some are ſeen in a few ſteep places, ſeveral rows the one above the other, and ſome are perceived even on the declivity of the oppoſite mountain; but you muſt ſtill go a little farther, and on the very top of the hill, in a place called TRYPITI*, in order to be aſtoniſhed at their number, their proximity, and the advantage which the inhabitants had found means to derive anciently from this ſituation, incapable of producing any thing, in order to make of it the aſylum of the dead.

You deſcend eight or ten ſteps by an aperture two feet wide, and you find yourſelf in a chamber twenty-five or thirty feet long, by eight or ten wide, and eight or nine high. Each of theſe catacombs generally contains ſeven ſarcophagi, three on each ſide, and one alone at the further end; but this was not an invariable rule, ſince, out of the number, we met with ſome, where there were but five ſepulchres, two on each ſide, and one at the further end; others, much ſmaller, where three only could be reckoned; and ſome, indeed few in number, where the ſepulchres were to the number of eight, two of which were at the farther end of the chamber.

Here the places of the dead did not conſiſt in cells deeply dug into the walls of galleries, as are ſeen in the catacombs of ALEXANDRIA, but in real ſarcophagi of five feet and a half or ſix feet in length, and of a foot or fifteen inches in depth, ſurmounted by an arch, the whole dug in the rock.

* From τρύπα, which ſignifies hole.

We

We perceived Greek characters traced on the ſpace which lies between the top of the arches and the beginning of the roof: but we were unable to decypher them, ſo much were they effaced. We doubt not that perſons more experienced than we were in reading inſcriptions, and who ſhall employ in this reſearch the time neceſſary, may there diſcover intereſting particulars, read perhaps names known in hiſtory, and find at leaſt the period at which the Greeks of MILO wiſhed to preſerve the remains of thoſe whom death had juſt taken away.

We ſaw ſeveral families ſettled on theſe catacombs: they inhabit huts, and apply themſelves to the culture of the lands which are ſituated below. They avail themſelves of the winter rains to fill with water the greater part of theſe ſepulchral chambers, and diſtribute it, during the ſummer, according to the wants of the ſoil. We ſaw a cultivator employed in deſtroying the ſtaircaſe of one of theſe catacombs, which he was going to transform into a ciſtern: a ſecond was taking away the earth from another, in the ſame intention. A third was making at the foot an outlet, which he was at liberty to open and to ſhut at pleaſure. But in all caſes, whether theſe catacombs were deſerted, or whether they were converted into ciſterns, they all had ſtill the ſarcophagi which we have juſt mentioned.

We were aſſured, in the country, that ſometimes, in clearing out theſe ſepulchral chambers, there were found urns of earth, vaſes, and other utenſils of the like nature; yet, whatever reſearches we made, it was out of our power to procure any. Some of thoſe to whom we addreſſed ourſelves, told us that they had given or ſold ſeveral to the Ruſſians, in the war before the laſt with the Turks.

If we conſider the prodigious number of theſe catacombs, by the ſide of the ruins which occupy a rather great extent; if we pay attention to

the walls built with ſolidity, to the pillars and to the pieces of marble and granite which evidently belong to temples and ſumptuous edifices; if we reflect on the advantageous poſition of the town within reach of the roadſtead, on an elevated promontory, far from the infections of the plain and the dangerous vapours of the eaſt and ſouth part of the iſland, we cannot forbear to admit that it was formerly the ſite of the capital.

MELOS, according to THUCYDIDES, was independent, and enjoyed the greateſt liberty, long before the Peloponneſian war, in which all GREECE, the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, and the principal towns of the weſt coaſts of ASIA MINOR, had alike taken part. The inhabitants of MELOS, ſtrongly ſolicited by the Athenians on the one hand, and, on the other, attached to the Lacedæmonians, from whom they deſcended, wiſhed, in the midſt of this terrible war, to remain quiet, and obſerve a wiſe neutrality. The Athenians were ſo irritated at this conduct, that they diſpatched NICIAS with a fleet of ſixty ſhips, and two thouſand land-forces, to puniſh them for the refuſal which they had made to furniſh their quota of troops. NICIAS ravaged the iſland; but he could not, with ſo feeble an army, ſucceed in taking the town, which was defended by all the inhabitants aſſembled.

The Athenians, ſome time after, ſent two other generals, who were not more ſucceſsful than NICIAS, although their army was more numerous; but PHILOCRATES having brought freſh troops, the Miliots were reduced to the greateſt extremity, and obliged to ſurrender. The Athenians, on this occaſion, no leſs implacable in their reſentment than ferocious in their vengeance, indiſcriminately maſſacred all the men in a condition to bear arms, and made ſlaves of the women and children, whom they carried away to ATTICA.

The

The iſland was re-peopled by five hundred perſons whom they ſent thither, and to whom they gave the property of thoſe that they had juſt murdered. In the mean time the Athenians, conquered in their turn by LYSANDER, general of the Lacedæmonian troops, and obliged to ſurrender at diſcretion, found themſelves forced to recall their colony, and the unfortunate remains of the Miliots were then enabled to return to their iſland, and to put themſelves again in poſſeſſion of the property that had been taken from them.

This iſland, like all thoſe of the ARCHIPELAGO, paſſed under the domination of the Romans; it afterwards made part of the empire of the EAST. MARCO SANUDO united it, with all the CYCLADES, to the dutchy of NAXOS. It was then detached from it in favour of FRANCESCO CRISPO, and at length ſubjected to the Ottoman Empire of BARBAROSSA.

MILO is about ſixty miles in circumference: its harbour, one of the fineſt and moſt ſpacious of the ARCHIPELAGO, can contain a numerous fleet: it has, like that of NAUSSA, in the Iſland of PAROS, the inconvenience of facing the north; which is the reaſon that a ſhip can with difficulty get out of it, becauſe the wind, in theſe parts, conſtantly blows in ſummer, and very frequently in winter, from that quarter. Although the anchorage is every where good, veſſels, in the winter ſeaſon, prefer ſheltering themſelves from the north wind behind the promontory, near which we have ſaid that the ancient town was built. Near the entrance of the harbour are ſeen ſome rocks of baſaltes, againſt which the waves break with impetuoſity and a dreadful roaring. The ſmall deſert iſland, called ANTI-MILO by mariners, is to be remarked a few miles to the north-weſt, and appeared to us volcanic like that of MILO.

The whole population of the iſland amounts not at the preſent day to five hundred perſons, and this number would diminiſh daily, did there not come annually from the MOREA unfortunate people whom diſtreſs occaſions to emigrate, and whom the culture of the lands attracts to MILO. The captain-pacha has ſome difficulty in levying at preſent 2500 piaſtres by way of impoſt.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER X.

Return to Cimolis.—*Departure from* Santorin.—*Deſcription of that iſland.*—*Formation of its roadſtead and of the three iſlands there ſituated.*—*Induſtry of the inhabitants.*—*Productions.*—*Impoſt.*—*Natural hiſtory.*—*Extent of the roadſtead and depth of the ſea.*

In the morning of the 3d of Thermidor (21ſt of July), we departed from Castro, very well ſatisfied with having preſerved, on a peſtilential iſland, that health which was ſo neceſſary to us for the continuation of our travels. We went to the ſhore of Apollonia, and embarked for Cimolis, where we preferred remaining till we could find an opportunity of repairing to Santorin. That very evening we were ſo fortunate as to hire a boat belonging to Sikinos, the crew of which were known to the inhabitants of Cimolis, and the honeſty of whoſe captain was warranted to us by the primates.

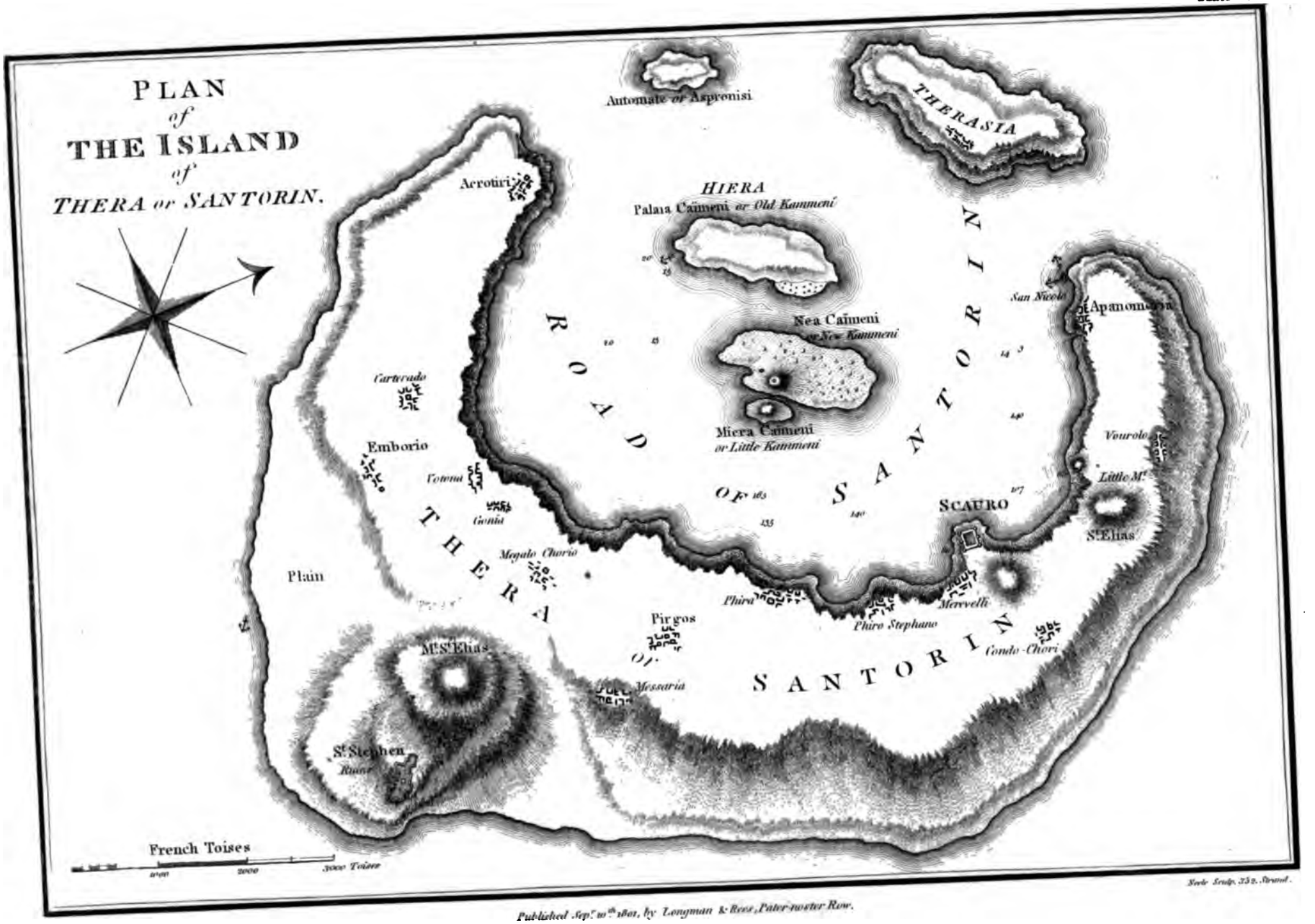
This precaution is not to be neglected in the iſlands of the Archipelago, and even throughout the Levant, where every one may navigate without papers, without patents, or without commiſſions. An European traveller would be highly imprudent, were he to embark here with mariners for whom no one would be reſponſible: he would run a riſk of falling into the hands of ſome pirates or of ſome villains, who would not fail to plunder him, and to throw him overboard, as ſoon as a favourable opportunity ſhould offer.

We

We ſet out early on the 4th (22d of July), and rowed along the weſt coaſt of CIMOLIS, in order to get to windward as much as poſſible, waiting for the north wind to ſpring up. The ſea was ſmooth, and the ſky clear and ſerene. Our ſailors, pulling at the ſame time, ſang the exploits of the pirate LAMBRO, while we were obſerving the rocks of CIMOLIS, and the windings of that elevated coaſt. About nine o'clock they ſet the ſails, and ſhaped a courſe towards the ſouth point of SIKINOS. At two o'clock in the afternoon, we were to the ſouthward of that iſland, and in the evening, before ſun-ſet, we anchored in the little harbour of *SAN NICOLO*, ſituated towards the north point of SANTORIN (*PLATE VII*). The diſtance from CIMOLIS to SANTORIN is fifteen or ſixteen leagues. Immediately on our arrival, we took a boat to go to *PHIRA*, in order to wait on the Latin biſhop, for whom we had brought letters from NAXOS.

Nothing more frightful than the violent convulſion which has taken place over all the interior coaſt of *THERA*, *THERASIA*, and *ASPRONISI*; nothing more aſtoniſhing than the formation of the roadſtead, and of the three iſlands which have iſſued from the bottom of the ſea at known periods. The coaſt of SANTORIN, nearly a hundred toiſes in elevation in ſome places, preſents itſelf like a perpendicular mountain, formed of various ſtrata and of different banks of volcanic ſubſtances. There has been ſome difficulty in making a practicable road for aſcending from the ſea to *APANOMERIA* and to *PHIRA*. Every where elſe it would be impoſſible to climb up a coaſt riſing ſo ſuddenly and ſo inacceſſible.

On landing under PHIRA (A), we ſaw ſeveral ſmall veſſels moored to the rocks of the coaſt: we remarked a conſiderable bank of roſe coloured puzzolana, in which have been dug very extenſive ſtorehouſes in order to facilitate the exportation of the wine that the iſland produces. We obſerved, in aſcending, ſeveral ſtrata of volcanic aſhes, gray or bluiſh; banks of pumice-



Neele Sculp. 352. Strand.

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pumice-ſtone of a blackiſh gray, intermixed with fragments and blocks of baſaltes. We afterwards perceived different ſtrata of puzzolana of a bright red; a rock of baſaltes on which are to be diſtinguiſhed pumice-ſtones and volcanic aſhes variouſly coloured; laſtly, a very thick ſtratum of white pumice-ſtone, which extends over the whole ſurface of the iſland, and which is likewiſe found on THERASIA and on ASPRONISI. It took us near half an hour to aſcend from the ſea to the village.

Under APANOMERIA, the ſtrata are nearly ſimilar to thoſe which we have juſt mentioned, except that, towards the middle of the coaſt, there is to be remarked a conſiderable bank of puzzolana of a beautiful red and of an excellent quality, which extends, at the ſame time diminiſhing in thickneſs, to the right and to the left, and which is found again in the ſame direction on the eaſtern coaſt of THERASIA.

The Latin biſhop, named *DALENDA*, received us with much politeneſs, made us ſhare his table, lodged us conveniently, procured us all the information that we wanted, and even carried his complaiſance ſo far as to deſire his nephew to accompany us in the different excurſions which we undertook in the iſland.

The next day after our arrival, we viſited all the north part. We went to *PHIRO-STEPHANI*, and to ME'RE'VELLI. We turned out of the road to ſee SCAURO, ſituated on a very lofty, volcanic rock, which advances into the ſea. This is the ſee of the Latin biſhop: here he generally paſſes the winter, and comes to PHIRA only in the ſummer. SCAURO was tolerably well fortified and ſufficiently peopled when the iſland belonged to the Dukes of NAXOS. The inhabitants are at this day abandoning it by degrees, in order to eſtabliſh themſelves at PHIRA and at PHIRO-STEPHANI, two villages which appear likely to be ſoon united and form but one. From this ſpot

ſpot we went to Little St. Elias, a hill ſcarcely higher than the ground on which Scauro and Mérévelli are ſituated.

The ſtratum of white pumice-ſtone which covers the whole iſland, is wanting in this ſpot: either the rains have carried it away, the ground being on a ſlope in the north part, or this hill has been the focus of a volcano a long time after the formation of this ſtratum; which is much more probable. In fact, in the upper part of Little St. Elias are to be perceived different apertures through which the ſubterraneous fires have eſcaped, and the ſubſtances that they have thrown out. All round are here ſeen blackiſh ſcoriæ ſimilar to droſs of iron, and a hard, ſpongy ſtone, of a beautiful ferruginous red, which extends along the coaſt as far as Scauro. Towards the foot of the hill, we found the ſame kind of puzzolana as we had ſeen the day before below Apanomeria; and as it was nearly of the ſame height, we judged that it belonged to the ſame bank.

On the following days, we viſited, both by ſea and by land, the ſouth part of the iſland as far as the point of Acrotisi. The coaſt, here as well as in the north part, is every where lofty, perpendicular towards the roadſtead, and formed of various volcanic ſtrata, nearly ſimilar to thoſe which we had remarked below Phira. The ground lies more or leſs on a ſlope from this coaſt to the other, and is every where covered, as we have ſaid elſewhere, with ſeveral toiſes of worn down pumice-ſtone, on which has been formed a little vegetable earth. Mounts St. Stephen and St. Elias tower above all the land of Santorin, and though lightly covered, in ſome places, with the ſame ſort of pumice-ſtone, it is ſeen that they have not experienced the action of fire. They are entirely calcareous, and formed of a whitiſh marble, of a rather bad quality.

What we ſay of THERA or of SANTORIN, likewiſe applies to THERASIA: this laſt, like the other, is covered with ſeveral toiſes of pumice-ſtone: its coaſt is lofty, and perpendicular towards the roadſtead, and the ground lies on a ſlope to the oppoſite coaſt. ASPRONISI, formerly AUTOMATE*, is not ſo lofty, but it is, like the other two, rent internally and covered with ſeveral toiſes of pumice-ſtone, whence it has obtained the name of *WHITE ISLAND*, which it bears at preſent †.

After having viſited with the greateſt attention THERA, THERASIA, and ASPRONISI, and convinced ourſelves that theſe three iſlands, at a remote epoch, muſt have formed but one; and that there has taken place a ſudden and violent depreſſion which has divided them, it remained for us to ſee whether the three iſlands of the road preſented an organization different from the other three. We employed a whole day in this examination, and we had reaſon to be ſatisfied in ſeeing that, even had not hiſtory told us any thing on this ſubject, theſe iſlands carry with them the ſtamp of the period of their formation.]

From PHIRA we deſcended to the little harbour which is ſituated at the foot of the coaſt (A). There we took a boat, and went to land on Little *KAMMENI*, called *MICRA CAÏMENI* by the Greeks. The diſtance from the harbour to the iſland is reckoned two miles. It is of a conical form, and is ſeparated from the other only by a very narrow channel, in which boats and veſſels ſometimes moor.

* *Thera, cum primum emerſit; calliſte dicta. Ex ea avulſa poſtea Therafia; atque inter duas enata mox Automate.*—PLIN. Hiſt. Nat. lib. iv. cap. xii.

† From ἀσπρος, white, and from νησι, iſland.

On this iſland nothing is ſeen but volcanic aſhes, blackiſh or reddiſh, which have run in all directions, and have iſſued from the crater that is diſcovered on the ſummit. Among theſe aſhes are ſome fragments of baſaltes, and there is already to be perceived a commencement of vegetation; among others may be remarked a little fig-tree and ſome gramineous plants.

New *Kammeni*, *Nea Caïmeni*, is upwards of a mile in length, and preſents a frightful aſpect when it is viewed near at hand. It is entirely ſtudded with blocks of black baſaltes, broken, ſharp on their edges, and irregularly heaped up. We landed in a ſmall cove (B). The waters there are of a greeniſh yellow: they have loſt their tranſparency, ſo much ſo, that we could not perceive the bottom at the depth of a foot. The colour of the waters, in this place, is diſtinguiſhed very well from Phira, eſpecially when the ſea is ſmooth. A few yards from the ſhore is a little moraſs (C), where the waters are more coloured than in the cove. As they cannot be renewed there in the ſummer, they exhale an odour ſo fetid, that we had like all at once to have fainted: we got away very quickly from ſo infectious a ſpot, and we wiſhed to attempt to penetrate into the interior of the iſland; but all our efforts were fruitleſs; it was impoſſible for us to walk on theſe ſharp-edged maſſes of baſaltes, without running the riſk of having our feet cut, and our limbs broken at every ſtep.

To the eaſt of the moraſs is a conical eminence, on which are ſtill perceived the different mouths whence iſſued fire at the time of the formation of the iſland. It is covered with volcanic aſhes of various colours, worn down baſaltes and pumice-ſtone, on which vegetation is juſt beginning to eſtabliſh itſelf. The reſt of the iſland is leſs elevated, and neither preſents earth nor aſhes, nor any ſort of plant.

Though

Though the waters of the cove and of the moraſs, of which we have juſt ſpoken, are ſtrongly coloured by exhalations and ſubſtances which are probably detached from the bottom; though this place is very certainly the focus of a volcano, which, perhaps, will, ere long, manifeſt itſelf by ſome freſh exploſion, the waters, nevertheleſs, did not appear to us hot: true it is that we had it not in our power to judge of them but by the contact of the hand. We had left our thermometers at PHIRA. We likewiſe remarked on the weſt coaſt of *HIERA* ſome receſſes where the water appeared in like manner ſlightly coloured; and on almoſt all the ſhore of theſe three iſlands is ſeen a ferruginous ſubſtance which is depoſited there, and which tinges the ſtones of a beautiful deep red.

The iſland *HIERA* or Old *KAMMENI* is upwards of a mile in length; like both the preceding, it appears to be nothing but a maſs, without regular ſtrata, of volcanic ſubſtances, and particularly of rocks of baſaltes. It is covered with a little earth mixed with pumice-ſtones and volcanic aſhes, which has given riſe to the vegetation that has there been long eſtabliſhed. This iſland is deſert and uncultivated. In the ſummer only aſſes and mules are ſent thither to graze. We think that the vine and the olive-tree would grow there tolerably well, and that ſeveral families might live there on the produce of the land. There is not as yet any trace of vegetation on the part marked (D): it is leſs elevated than the reſt of the iſland, and evidently appears of more modern formation. It is nothing but fragments of baſaltes, on which no earthy ſtratum is yet formed, and the period even of this muſt be remote, unleſs ſome freſh exploſion cover again theſe rocks with volcanic aſhes which may promote vegetation.

On HIERA, are remarked cleſts ſomewhat conſiderable, which take the direction of its length, and extend almoſt from the one extremity to the

other. They have, no doubt, been occaſioned by the earthquakes which have very frequently taken place in theſe countries.

It is time to ſpeak of the formation of the three volcanic iſlands that are ſituated in the road of SANTORIN, the periods of which are tolerably well marked, either in the ancient, or in ſome modern authors.

TOURNEFORT has not ſufficiently well obſerved that the two iſlands THERASIA and ASPRONISI muſt have made part of the large one, and that the two KAMMENIS, the Old one and the Little one, which exiſted in his time, appear, even at firſt ſight, of more modern formation than the others. THERASIA, on which PTOLEMY places a town, and which PLINY conjectures, with reaſon, to have been detached from THERA, cannot be taken for ASPRONISI, nor the latter for the former, as TOURNEFORT imagines. ASPRONISI is not conſiderable enough for there ever to have been on it the ſmalleſt little village, the ſmalleſt habitation; while THERASIA has ſufficient extent, and its territory is ſufficiently good to have been always the ſite of a town, as one is ſtill to be ſeen there at the preſent day. TOURNEFORT adds that THERASIA always bore the name of *HIERA*. The poſition, according to authors, of the Iſland of HIERA, between THERA and THERASIA, leaves no doubt, and demonſtrates that TOURNEFORT is miſtaken. Beſides the inhabitants of SANTORIN, whom we muſt conſider as authority in this caſe, ſtill name thoſe iſlands as we have marked them on the chart, the one *THERASIA*, the other *ASPRONISI*, and the third *PALAIA-CAÏMENI*.

HIERA or the Sacred Iſland was dedicated to the gods of hell, becauſe it had been ſeen to iſſue all on fire from the bottom of the ſea through the effect of a volcano. PLINY ſays that this event took place one hundred and thirty years after that which had ſeparated THERA from THERASIA. M. DE CHOISEUL

CHOISEUL affirms, according to Father HARDOUIN, that there is a miſtake in the dates, and that it was not till forty years after that the Iſland of HIÉRA made its appearance.

BRIETIUS ſays that in the year 47, there aroſe all on a ſudden from the bottom of the ſea, near THERA, a ſmall iſland which had not yet been ſeen*.

In the year 196, before J. C. ſays JUSTINUS, there was ſeen to iſſue after an earthquake, an iſland between THERA and THERASIA, which was called *SACRED*, and which was dedicated to PLUTO †.

DION CASSIUS mentions the ſudden appearance of a ſmall iſland near that of THERA, during the reign of CLAUDIUS. SYNCELLUS mentions it in the forty-ſixth year after J. C. and places it between THERA and THERASIA. But it appears that, ſome time after, there aroſe another iſland called *THIA*, which diſappeared or was united to the *Sacred* Iſland. Mention is made of it in PLINY ‡, in THEOPHANES §, and in BRIETIUS ||.

* *Hoc anno (Chriſti 47) juxtà Theram inſulam, parva inſula ante non viſa, repentè apparuit; mare enim hoc Ægeum in hac parte fui, fertile fuit novarum inſularum jubindè ex fundo æquoris erumpentium.* BRIET. *ann. mund. Venet.* 1692. vol. ii. p. 63.

† *Eodem anno, inter inſulas Theramenem et Therafiam, medio utriuſque ripæ et maris ſpatio terræmotus fuit in quo cum admiratione navigantium, repentè ex profundo cum calidis aquis inſula emerſit. Huic Sacra nomen eſt quæ vota Plutoni. Annus vero* 196 *ante Chriſtum.* JUST. lib. xxx. cap. iv.

‡ *Et in noſtro ævo Thia juxta eandem Hieram nata.* PLIN. lib. iv. cap. xii.

§ *Sub Leone Iſaurico iconomacho refert Baronius: inter Theram et Therafiam cycladas inſulas, primo vapor ut ex camino ignis viſus eſt ebullire ex profundo maris per aliquas dies, qui paulatim incraſſatus, et dilatatus totus igneus apparuit, poſtea vero petrinos pumices grandes et cumulos quoſdam tranſmiſit per univerſam minorem Aſiam et Leſbo, et Abydum maritimam Macedoniæ, adeò ut etiam tota ſuperficies maris iiſdem contegeretur. In modo autem tanti ignis, nova repentè inſula ex terræ congerie facta inſulæ quæ* Sacra *dicitur, copulata eſt.*

|| *In Ionio mari, inter Theram et Therafiam, erupit ignis è mari, quem ſecuta ingens vis pumicum, et tanta, ut totam Ægei maris faciam impleret; ac denique indidem emerſit inſula ex terræ congerie facta, quæ ſacræ inſulæ copulata eſt. Qui maris locus ſemper fœcundus in hiſtoriis legitur.* BRIET. page 236.

Nothing

Nothing remarkable afterwards happened till 1427, when a freſh exploſion produced a rather great and very diſtinguiſhable increaſe to the Iſland of HIERA (D), mention of which is made in ſome Latin verſes engraved on a marble at SCAURO, near the church of the Jeſuits*. In 1573, was formed, after a freſh exploſion which laſted for ſome time, the Little KAMMENI, ſuch as we ſee it at the preſent day. Father RICHARD, a Jeſuit, ſays that, in his time, there were ſeveral old men in SANTORIN, who had ſeen that iſland formed in the middle of the ſea, and that they had, on that account, named it MICRA CAÏMENI, *LITTLE BURNT ISLAND.*

When TOURNEFORT viſited SANTORIN at the beginning of the laſt century, the New KAMMENI was not yet in exiſtence: it was not till ſome years after, from 1707 to 1711, that it iſſued by degrees from the boſom of the ſea, after various earthquakes. Every increaſe that this iſland received, was announced by a dreadful noiſe, and followed by a white ſmoke, thick and infectious. The whole was terminated by a ſhower of fragments of baſaltes, pumice-ſtones, and aſhes, which were ſpread to a great diſtance. The details of this memorable event are reported at length, either in the journals of the times, or in a Latin pamphlet made on the ſpot by a Jeſuit prieſt.

If the reader reflect on the conſiderable changes which the Iſland of SANTORIN has experienced through the effects of a volcano that acts on it from a very remote period, he will remark in them four principal periods, very

* *Magnanime franciſce heroum certiſſima proles*
Vides oculis clades, quæ mira dedere
Mille quadrigentis Chriſti labentibus annis
Quinquies undenis iſtis jungendo duobus
Septimo calendas decembris murmure vaſto
Vaſtus Therafinus immanis ſaxa cameneæ
Cum gemit, avulſit, ſcopuloſque à fluctibus imis
Apparet, magnum gignet memorabile monſtrum.

diſtinct

diſtinct from each other. At the firſt period the iſland was limited to Mounts St. STEPHEN and St. ELIAS, as far as the environs of PIRGOS and of MESSARIA, the only places that are not *volcanized*. The ſecond was the formation of the reſt of the iſland as far as THERASIA and ASPRONISI. The roadſtead then did not exiſt, and the iſland was as large again, of a rounded or oblong form: the ground roſe in the form of a *calotte* more or leſs irregular at its ſummit, commanded at one of the extremities by Mounts St. STEPHEN and St. ELIAS. The third period was the ſudden and extraordinary depreſſion which took place in the middle of the iſland, whence has reſulted the roadſtead. The fourth and laſt period, is the formation of three iſlands which have ſucceſſively iſſued from the bottom of the ſea. Perhaps, there will one day be formed others; perhaps, all theſe iſlands will be united to each other, and all the ſpace which the roadſtead occupies, will again be filled up. It is impoſſible to foreſee all the changes that may take place as long as the volcano which exiſts at SANTORIN, ſhall be in activity.

We ſay that there was a period when this iſland was leſs conſiderable than it has been in the ſequel. In fact, if we conſider that the three iſlands which form the road, are entirely compoſed of ſubſtances vomited forth by a volcano, diſpoſed in ſtrata and in banks, correſponding to each other, we ſhall be inclined to believe that all theſe ſubſtances thrown out from the bottom of the ſea, have formed an iſland nearly circular. And then if we remark around the roadſtead the coaſt which is perpendicular a great way into the ſea, is it not evident that there has been in the ſequel a ſudden depreſſion of a great part of the iſland which went to occupy the voids that the anterior explofions muſt have formed? This depreſſion by occaſioning the circular rending which is to be remarked all round the roadſtead, formed of a ſingle one, theſe iſlands known in antiquity by the names of THERA, THERASIA, and AUTOMATE. Even though the ancient authors had not tranſmitted nearly the period at which the Iſland HIERA iſſued from the bottom of the

ſea, even though we had not known the exact period of the ſudden appearance of the Little and the New KAMMENI, inſpection alone would indicate that theſe three iſlands are of a formation very poſterior to that of the other three; for, independently of their not preſenting the ſame organization, they are not covered with that thick ſtratum of white pumice-ſtone which is to be remarked in the Iſlands of THERA, THERASIA, and ASPRONISI. This ſtratum appears evidently to have been produced before the appearance of THERA, and even before the formation of the roadſtead, ſince no traces of it are to be ſeen on that iſland, and ſince it does not ſhew itſelf on any of the advanced parts of the coaſt.

SANTORIN, according to PLINY, received the name of *CALISTA* or *HANDSOME ISLAND*, after having iſſued from the boſom of the waters: it afterwards bore that of *THERA*, one of its kings: the name which it has at the preſent day, is formed of that of St. IRENE, to whom the iſland was dedicated under the emperors of the Eaſt.

It is not to be doubted that if we conſider what SANTORIN muſt have been at its ſecond period, becauſe it is ſtill ſo at this day, we ſhall eaſily be perſuaded that it muſt have been one of the fineſt and moſt fertile iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. Its circular form, a ſoil entirely ſuſceptible of culture which roſe by degrees from the borders of the ſea in the form of a *calotte* flattened on its top, Mounts St. STEPHEN and St. ELIAS, ſituated at one of the extremities, covered, perhaps, with verdure and wood—every thing concurred to render SANTORIN, if not a very beautiful iſland, at leaſt one of the moſt agreeable of the ARCHIPELAGO; for, in the ſuppoſition that this mountain was covered with vegetables, it contributed to the embelliſhment of the iſland; it furniſhed wood to the inhabitants, and afforded them, perhaps, a very copious ſpring of water. In fine, if this mountain was clothed with wood before the rains had waſhed away the earth which covered it, the

latter

latter muſt have retained the rain waters, muſt have permitted them to penetrate into its boſom; and then the ſmall ſpring of water, which is perceived there towards *Messaria*, muſt have been much more copious than it is at the preſent day, when this calcareous mountain is almoſt entirely naked.

The other iſlands of theſe ſeas have their ſurface very unequal. They are no more than naked mountains, covered with rocks: there are but a few vallies, a few ſmall plains, and a few riſing grounds that are cultivated. Their aſpect is far leſs agreeable than that which Santorin muſt have preſented at this period; and at the preſent day, even notwithſtanding the ſmall extent of its territory, though it wants a good harbour, though it has none but ciſtern water, it is ſtill the moſt populous and the richeſt of all the ſmall iſlands of the Archipelago.

In the *Annals of the World*, by Brietius, we find that, thirty years before the Ionic emigration, Theras, ſon of Autesion and nephew of Polynices, cauſed a colony of Minyæ to be conveyed to Calista, in order to augment there the number of the inhabitants. The Minyæ were deſcendants of the Argonauts, who had followed Jason into Colchis, and who, on their return, had ſtopped at Lemnos, and had there eſtabliſhed themſelves. The deſcendants of theſe heroes, driven ſome time after from Lemnos by the Pelaſgi, took refuge in Sparta, where they were kindly received. Lands even were given to them, and they were married to girls of the country. But as theſe ſtrangers, ever reſtleſs and ambitious, were in the ſequel convicted of endeavouring to ſeize on the ſovereign authority, they were apprehended and condemned to death. Love inſpired one of their women with a trick which ſucceeded. Having obtained permiſſion to ſee their huſbands previous to the execution of the ſentence, they changed clothes with them, and, by means of this diſguiſe, the huſbands got out in the dark from their confinement, and fled to Mount Taygetus. Then it was that

THERAS demanded them, obtained them, and conducted them to *CALISTA*, which, ſince that time, was called *THERA*. Thus it was, ſays the author, that this wiſe man found means to render uſeful rebels and plunderers who had deſerved death.

The inhabitants of THERA, it is ſaid, neither mourned for children who died before the age of ſeven years, nor for men who ceaſed to exiſt beyond fifty: the former, becauſe they had not yet entered into life; the latter, becauſe they were become uſeleſs. This cuſtom, more barbarous than rational, could not have been introduced but among an inſulated people, few in number, where all the merit of a man conſiſts in producing children and in employing his arm in defence of his country. But when it is neceſſary to enlighten; when it is neceſſary to guide youth, proud, preſumptuous, and unſkilful; when it is neceſſary to ſeize, with a ſteady, experienced hand, the helm of affairs, in a vaſt State, agitated and threatened on all ſides; when, through the extent of conceptions, it is neceſſary, in the preſent and the paſt, to read the future without being miſtaken, will it then be ſaid that, at fifty years old, man has lived long enough, and that there remains nothing more for him to do than to quit a life henceforth uſeleſs to himſelf and to his fellow-creatures? Undoubtedly not: it is at this age, much more than at any other, that he is capable of ſerving his country with his head, if he be leſs qualified to ſerve it with his arm.

But let us leave fable and fictions, and go and examine on Mount ST. STEPHEN the ruins of the ancient city: we ſhall judge, from their aſpect, how populous and flouriſhing THERA was under the Roman Empire.

On paſſing below MESSARIA, we ſaw in the wall of an enclоſure, a ſtatue of a woman in marble, to which the head, the arms, and the legs, were wanting. Notwithſtanding the bad condition in which it was, this ſtatue

appeared to us to have a tolerably handſome form. We alighted from our mules at the foot of the mountain, and aſcended by a road rather ſteep, and ſo much the more difficult, as in ſeveral places the ground is covered with looſe, worn down pumice-ſtone.

About a third of the way up the mountain there is a ſmall ſpring of water, which we found very good: it ſerves to quench the thirſt of ſome ſheep and goats which graze in this quarter. Having reached the ſummit, we directed our ſteps to the left, leaving on the right Mount ST. ELIAS, which is much more elevated than the ground on which we ſtood.

What firſt ſtruck us, were ſome ſarcophagi cut in a calcareous rock. On advancing, we diſcovered the remains of the walls which formerly ſurrounded the city: we perceived veſtiges of houſes and ſome ciſterns in pretty good preſervation. We preſently ſaw the modern church dedicated to ST. STEPHEN, probably built on the ruins of the temple of MINERVA or of NEPTUNE. Farther on, in walking a little obliquely to the left, are found the ruins of another temple. Here are ſeen walls very thick, truncated pieces of pillars of a gray marble, ſcattered on the ground, and half-buried. Towards the extremity of the town is ſeen a rather large hexagon, of no great elevation, on which it is probable that there was formerly a ſtatue. Was it that of MARCUS AURELIUS, or of ANTONINUS, which the inhabitants of THERA raiſed in honour of thoſe emperors? By the ſide of this hexagon is a ſmall deſerted modern building, erected on the foundations of ſome ancient edifice more conſiderable. We remarked, at the foot of a wall, a marble ſarcophagus, on the faces of which ſome foliage was ſculptured in relief: at the two extremities were ſatyrs very much injured.

The Ruſſians, we were told, carried off ſome intereſting inſcriptions, ſtatues, and baſs-reliefs: they broke ſeveral pillars in endeavouring to take them

away. Some time before our arrival, Citizen FAUVEL alſo dug for curioſities by order of M. DE CHOISEUL; which procured him a few pieces that had eſcaped the reſearches of the Ruſſians. We alſo found ſome inſcriptions which have not been remarked by the travellers who have preceded us, or at leaſt have not yet been publiſhed by them: they were copied with the greateſt care by LAZARUS ALBI, a prieſt diſtinguiſhed by his virtues, his knowledge, and a profound ſtudy of Greek literature.

This town was of moderate ſize; its length was great in compariſon to its breadth. The walls which ſurrounded it, had ſufficient ſolidity, and muſt have defended it tolerably well; but it was its poſition on a very ſteep mountain, ſtill more than its walls, which ſecured it from the attacks of its enemies.

From this place, the eye can extend to a great diſtance in every direction, except towards Mount ST. ELIAS, which is much more lofty. When the weather is fine, you perceive the ſummit of Mount IDA in CRETE, and you eaſily diſcover ANAPHE, ASTYPALÆA, IOS, NAXOS, and the greater part of the CYCLADES. The plain which is ſeen below, in the weſt quarter, is the moſt fertile and the moſt productive place of the iſland. Veſſels anchor ſometimes in ſummer off the ſhore at which this plain terminates. The bottom is ſand and gravel.

SANTORIN, in proportion to its extent, is the richeſt and moſt populous of all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. There are reckoned on it five principal villages, in each of which is a primate: *APANOMERIA*, *SCAURO*, *PIRGOS*, *EMBORIO*, and *ACROTIRI*. The primates, diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Epitropi*, are charged with the police of their diſtrict, with the convoking of the principal inhabitants for the aſſemblies relative to the affairs of the iſland, with ſuperintending the collection of the impoſts, &c.

They

They are renewed every year, and appointed by the general aſſemblies of the people. Beſides theſe five principal villages, there are ſeveral other ſmaller ones, ſuch as *Merevelli*, *Vourvoulo*, *Phiro-Stephani*, *Phira*, *Gonia*, *Carterado*, *Votona*, *Meſſaria*, and *Megalo-Chorio*. The population exceeds twelve thouſand ſouls, almoſt all of the Greek church.

The number of Roman catholics has diminiſhed ſince Tournefort, for, in his time, they amounted to one-third of the inhabitants, and they form not a ſixth at preſent. There are two biſhops: the one Latin, who paſſes the winter at Scauro, and the ſummer at Phira; and the other Greek, whoſe reſidence is at Pirgos. Here Jeſuits formerly reſided; they have been ſucceeded by Lazariſts: they both have been for a long time charged with the education of ſome young people. Here are, beſides, two convents of nuns, the one Latin, and the other Greek: the Latin convent follows the rule of St. Dominic, and the Greek that of St. Basil. The Greek prieſts are in this iſland as numerous as they are throughout the Archipelago, and they are here almoſt as poor.

The inhabitants of Santorin are very laborious and very temperate: they are juſtly reckoned to have more morals and more probity than thoſe of Naxos. They are alſo much more induſtrious and much richer. They apply themſelves with incredible activity to the culture of the vine and that of cotton. The women manufacture cloths of different qualities: they alſo knit caps and ſtockings, which they ſell to ſtrangers, and ſend to Russia and to ſome towns of Italy. It is the nuns who fabricate the fineſt and the beſt cloths. This trade is ſomewhat extenſive, conſidering the ſmall population of the iſland; and as the cotton which is gathered is not ſufficient for the induſtry of the inhabitants, they draw it from the other iſlands, and in particular from *Scala Nova*, in the Gulf of Ephesus.

Wine

Wine forms the principal revenue of the iſland: the moſt eſteemed is that known under the name of *Vino Santo*. It is ſweet, luſcious, and of indifferent quality the firſt year: it becomes very good as it acquires age, and preferable to the beſt CYPRUS wine. The inhabitants ſell it at no more than three or four parats the oke at the vintage. It almoſt all goes to RUSSIA. It is made with white grapes very ripe, which are expoſed for eight days to the ſun, ſpread on the terraces or flat roofs of the houſes. They are afterwards trodden; then preſſed, and the new wine is put into caſks, which are carefully bunged till the fermentation has ceaſed.

The common wine is not very good: it is in general ſweet, and eaſily turns ſour. It is made with white grapes and with black grapes indifferently, which are trodden on coming out of the vineyard: the new wine is immediately drawn to be put into caſks. As the grapes are too ripe and too ſaccharine, in order that the fermentation may take place more eaſily, the inhabitants are accuſtomed at SANTORIN, as well as in all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, to add a fourth or even a third of water. They ſuffer this wine to ferment about a month, after which the caſk is cloſely bunged. On the lees which remain in the vat, a rather large quantity of water is poured, and it is left to ferment for eight or ten days. The wine which ariſes from it is then drawn off, and the lees are preſſed. This wine, which is of a quality very inferior, ſerves, during the whole year, for the uſe of the inhabitants; the other is ſold at one or two parats the oke to ſtrangers.

The cellars are ſpacious and very clean: they are dug in the bank of white pumice-ſtone, which we have ſaid covers the whole iſland. The upper part is cut into the form of an arch. Some rich individuals coat the inſide of theſe cellars with a cement; others put none, and it appeared to us that this was not neceſſary. Although this ſubſtance is friable and rather ſoft, the arch, however, is very ſolid, and it ſeldom happens that any portion

at

at all conſiderable breaks off from it. The caſks are placed in two rows. There is towards the entrance of the cellar a ſquare vat, tolerably large, conſtructed in maſonry, cemented on the inſide with a mixture of lime and pumice-ſtone paſſed through a ſieve.

The quantity of wine which is exported from SANTORIN every year, is very conſiderable: it is eſtimated, in an ordinary vintage, at a million of okes. Hence is alſo exported a ſmall quantity of brandy. The inhabitants, deprived of ſpring-water, are ſcarcely acquainted with any other beverage than their ſmall wine. They drink it, though turned ſour, and in this condition it is ſtill agreeable. We ourſelves made uſe of it with pleaſure, and without inconvenience, during the intenſe heat which we experienced in the iſland.

Though the ſoil of SANTORIN is very dry, and far from fertile, the cotton tree and the vine thrive there extremely well. The ſurface of the ſoil is nothing but a mixture of pumice-ſtone, fragments of baſaltes, and vegetable earth, produced by the dung which is put on it, and by the decompoſition of the vegetables which there grow. The cotton of SANTORIN appears to differ from the herbaceous cotton which is cultivated in the other iſlands: it is ſhrubby, and laſts fifteen or twenty years. It is cut annually even with the ground. The gathering takes place from the end of Fructidor to Brumaire.

The vine-plants are ſet at the diſtance of two or three feet from each other, and they are ſuffered to grow for ten or twelve years without being cut in any way. When it is thought that they have acquired a ſufficient ſize, they are annually trimmed, at the ſame time more ſhoots are left than we leave in the South of FRANCE. The vine-plant is ſupported, in order that it

The villages ſituated on the ſummit of the interſected ground of the road-ſtead, have a very ſingular aſpect. The houſes are half cut into the pumice-ſtone, half built on the outſide of it, and placed the one above the other, according to the diſpoſition of the ground. The part which is elevated on the outſide, is levelled at the top like a terrace, by means of a mixture of lime and pumice-ſtone ſifted: ſuch are *Apanomeria*, *Scauro*, *Merevelli*, *Phiro*, *Stephani*, and *Phira*. The pooreſt villages inland, ſuch as *Vourvoulo*, *Condo-Chori*, and *Meſſaria*, ſituated on a declivity, are nothing more than an aſſemblage of caverns made in the pumice-ſtone. There is only a ſmall portion of the front of each habitation that is a little walled up, on account of the entrance-door. Pirgos is the moſt conſiderable, the beſt built, and the richeſt village of the iſland. There you breathe a pure air, and enjoy an agreeable proſpect. Almoſt all the houſes of Santorin have a ciſtern, which the inhabitants take care to fill in the rainy ſeaſon: they have no other water to drink and to give to their cattle.

The partridge and the hare, ſo common in moſt of the iſlands of the Archipelago, are very ſcarce at Santorin. The rabbit which we ſaw at Tenedos, at Myconi, at Delos, at Paros, at Scio, and elſewhere, is not here to be found; but, to make amends, the quail is in plenty from the end of Fructidor. The inhabitants purſue it by means of a net fixed to a hoop of three or four feet in diameter, to which is adapted a ſtick ſeven or eight feet long. The ſportſman caſts his net on a ſtump of the vine, or of the cotton-tree, where he ſuſpects that there is any quail ſquatted, and it happens rather frequently that he catches one. We ſaw ſeveral taken the following year, in Fructidor, in leſs than a quarter of an hour.

As the inhabitants cannot conſume all the quails which this kind of ſport procures, they are in the habit of parboiling them, and preſerving them

all the winter in vinegar, or in *vino ſanto*. This is a very delicate diſh, which ſurpaſſes the fig-pecker of CYPRUS prepared in the ſame manner.

We ſaw in the ſame ſeaſon the Alpine crow*. We were told that it was a bird of paſſage, and that it came from the mountains of ASIA MINOR.

The road of SANTORIN is about ſeven miles in length from north to ſouth, and ſix in breadth from the little harbour of PHIRA to the Iſland of ASPRONISI. It would be one of the beſt ports of the ARCHIPELAGO, if ſhips could caſt anchor there; but the lead indicates a conſiderable depth of water, ſuch as two hundred and fifty and three hundred fathoms. Boats anchor at SAN NICOLO: veſſels make faſt by mooring below PHIRA, when they come to load with wine. If bad weather oblige them to take ſhelter at SANTORIN, they generally make faſt between the LITTLE and the NEW KAMMENI, till the ſquall be over. Frigates may caſt anchor in fifteen or twenty fathoms water, over a gravelly bottom to the ſouthward of the OLD KAMMENI, at the ſame time taking the precaution to run out immediately a hawſer to the ſhore.

Some little diſtance to the ſouth ſouth-weſt of the LITTLE KAMMENI, the bottom of the ſea riſes, and the lead indicates no more than fifteen or twenty fathoms; but this bottom is of ſtone and rock, on which a ſhip cannot anchor. The fiſhermen belonging to the iſland affirm that it has riſen conſiderably within a ſhort time, which ſeems to announce the approaching formation of a new iſland.

We think that it would be imprudent to remain too long at anchor between the LITTLE and the NEW KAMMENI, on account of the vicinity

* *Corvus pyrrhocorax.* LINN.—*T.*

of

of the latter, which exhales a very fetid ſmell, and muſt be extremely unwholeſome; for, independently of the waters which ſtagnate there, the volcanic exhalations that proceed from this place and the environs, muſt infect the air to a rather great diſtance, and ſoon occaſion dangerous diſorders.

CHAPTER XI.

Arrival at Candia.—*Deſcription of that town.—Viſit to the pacha.—Departure.—Arrival at* Retimo.—*Behaviour of the pacha.—Arrival at* Canea.—*Deſcription of the environs.—Temperature.—Obſervations on the winds.—Earthquake.*

IMPATIENT to repair to the Iſle of CRETE, and to ſee the country of JUPITER and of MINOS, we embarked on the 12th of Thermidor (30th of July), in the evening, in a large boat with lateen ſails, which had arrived a few days before at Port SAN NICOLO. The captain, a Muſſulman by religion, was a native of TUNIS. He often frequented the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, and enjoyed a very good reputation. He had brought *mantegue** from the Gulf of SIDRA in AFRICA, and was going to CANDIA to take on board for EGYPT a cargo of raiſins, almonds, ST. JOHN's bread, liquorice-roots, and honey.

As the diſtance from SANTORIN to CANDIA is about thirty leagues, we ſhould have preferred embarking on board a European veſſel, rather than making this trip in one of the country-boats: but there was no choice left for us. Merchant-veſſels frequent but little the harbour of SANTORIN in ſummer; and, in that ſeaſon, the regularity of the wind allows of navigating, without fear and without danger, in ſmall boats.

* *Mantegue* is a mixture of butter and mutton-ſuet, of which the Orientals make uſe in their ragouts and paſtry.

We

We ſet out from SANTORIN in the evening, in order to arrive in broad day at CANDIA. We left on the right the little Iſland of CHRISTIANA, and we ſteered, without compaſs, nearly towards the ſouth. The north wind fell, as uſual, after ſunſet: it was faint and variable during the night, and, in the morning, we found ourſelves ten or twelve leagues from CANDIA, to the north-eaſt of DIA. As we were too far to the eaſtward, and as the wind, which blew from eight o'clock in the morning, was north north-weſt, we plied to windward a part of the day, in order to paſs to the weſtward of DIA; which was the reaſon that we did not enter the harbour till the evening of the 13th (31ſt of July).

We made the captain acknowledge that it is much better to conſult a compaſs, as ſoon as one loſes ſight of the land, than the ſtars and the ſun, which do not indicate the courſe with the ſame preciſion. Notwithſtanding this avowal, he ſet ſail for EGYPT a few days after, diſdaining to purchaſe an excellent compaſs which a Raguſan mariner offered him at a low price, ſo much empire has habit over an ignorant man.

The firſt chain of Mount IDA, which riſes in the form of a pyramid to the ſouth-weſt of CANDIA, ſerves at a diſtance as a land-mark to navigators, who wiſh to anchor in the harbour of that town. The little Iſland of DIAS ſituated to the eaſt north-eaſt, known to mariners under the name of *STAN-DIA**, equally concurs to guide their route: it does more; it affords them an aſylum in the three roadſteads which it has in its ſouth quarter. We ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak of them elſewhere.

The harbour of CANDIA is defended from the north wind by rocks, on which has been built a ſtrong jetty parallel to the coaſt; it is very ſafe, and

* Εις τν Δια, is tin Dia.

might

might contain from thirty to forty merchant-veſſels if it were dug and kept in order. It can at this day receive but eight or ten, and theſe too muſt be lightened or unloaded; for there are no more than eight or nine feet water in the inſide of the harbour, and about fifteen at its entrance. The Turks, who enjoy every where with the indifference of a tenant; the Turks, who make every thing worſe, and never any thing better, ſuffer it to be choked up from day to day without employing themſelves on the means of clearing it; which would, nevertheleſs, be very eaſy, the bottom being of ſand and mud.

In front of the jetty, to the left on entering, are arſenals which are allowed to fall into decay: theſe were conſtructed by the Venetians in 1552, to judge of them from that date put underneath the arms of the Republic. They ſuffered greatly at the time of the ſiege of this place by the Turks, in 1667, 1668, and 1669: ſome even have loſt a great part of their roof. Theſe arſenals, to the number of ten, are, properly ſpeaking, nothing more than docks, which that induſtrious and trading people had conſtructed for building gallies, and for putting them under cover when they were laid up.

From the harbour the entrance into the town is by a gate, which is ſhut at night. Walls of a ſolid conſtruction, a good ditch, and ſome advanced works, defend this place very well by land. The houſes are better built than all thoſe which we had hitherto ſeen, if we except Scio; but the population here is not in proportion to its extent. Here are ſcarcely reckoned ten or twelve thouſand Turks, two or three thouſand Greeks, and about ſixty Jews. The Greeks who inhabited it, before it was ſubjected to the Turks, followed the Venetians at the time of the capitulation, or made their eſcape into the country. They come not at this day without trembling to ſettle in a town where their exiſtence is inceſſantly threatened by the janizaries, and their fortune very frequently invaded by the pachas.

CANDIA is ſituated on a lawn of no great elevation. The ground, ſupported towards the ſea by a ſtrong wall built on rocks, affords an agreeable walk. Here are ſeen ſeveral pieces of cannon with the arms of VENICE, capable of defending by ſea the approaches of the place. The ſeraglio of the pacha ſtands on the oppoſite ſide, and occupies the ſite on which was built the palace of the proveditor. The handſomeſt churches, damaged by the ſiege, have been repaired and converted into moſques. The houſes conſtructed by the Venetians have diſappeared for a long time; but the fortifications have been carefully kept up, ſo much importance does the PORTE annex to the preſervation of the iſland.

We ſhall not undertake to decide whether CANDIA occupies the poſition of the ancient *CYTÆUM*, as ſome geographers appear to believe, or that of *MATIUM*, as ſome others ſuppoſe: we ſhall only ſay, from the places which we attentively viſited in a ſecond voyage, that it appears to us more proper to conſider the ruins of a town, ſituated four leagues to the weſt, as thoſe of *CYTÆUM*. We ſhall place *MATIUM* two leagues to the eaſt of CANDIA, facing DIA, as PLINY calls it. HERACLEA, which is known to have been the harbour of CNOSSUS, ſtill exiſts four or five leagues to the eaſtward. That of CANDIA, the beſt on the whole coaſt, appears to us, in this ſuppoſition, to be Port PANORMUS, ſituated, according to PTOLEMY, between *CYTÆUM* and *HERACLEA*.

The name of CANDIA, which this town bears at the preſent day, comes from the Saracen word *chandax* or *candax*, which ſignifies entrenchment, becauſe it was in this place that the Saracens entrenched themſelves when they came to make the conqueſt of the iſland, under the emperor MICHAEL I. ſurnamed the Stammerer.

In

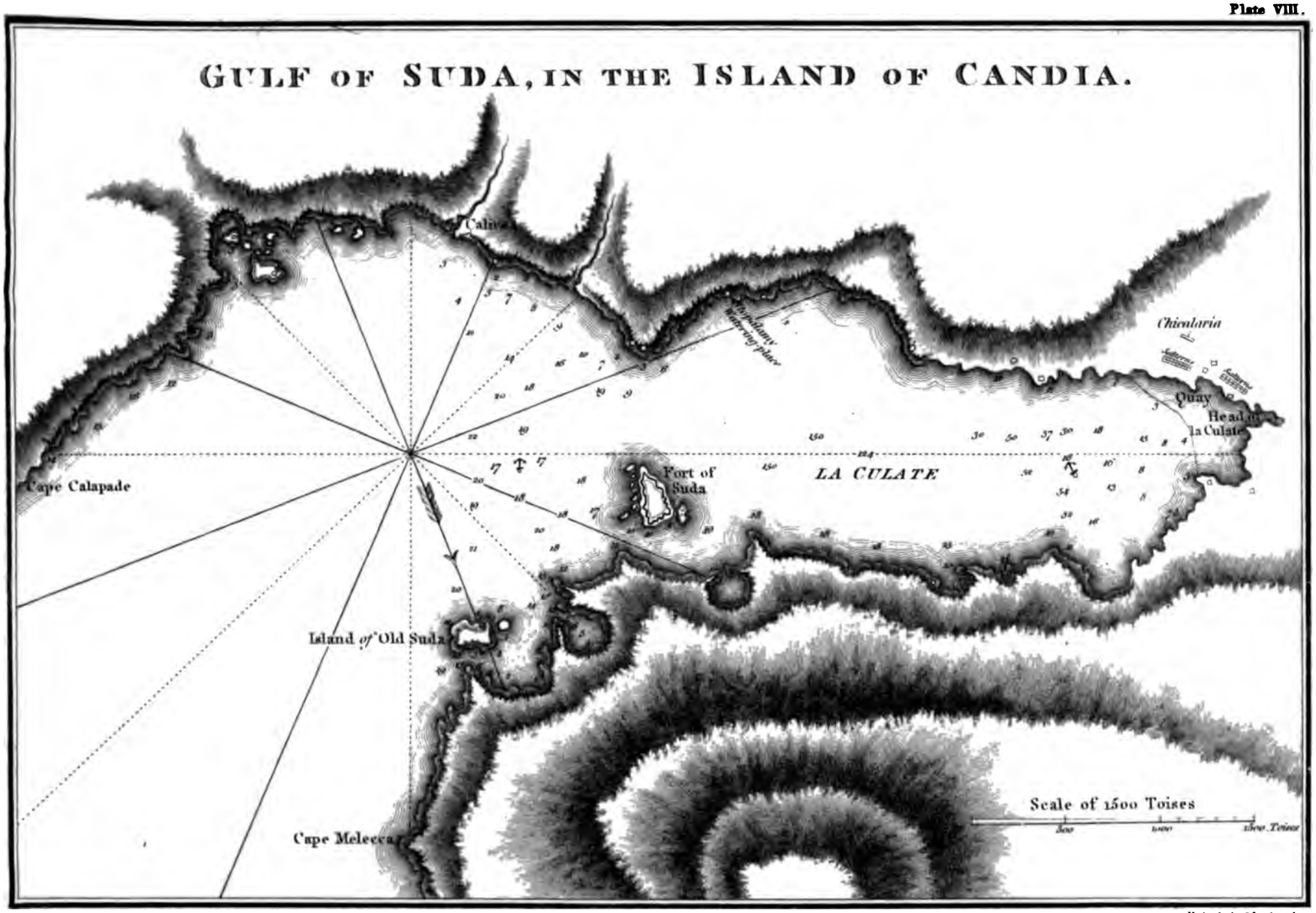
In 1645, the Turks got poſſeſſion of CANEA, RETIMO, and all the Iſland of CRETE; but they were unable to make themſelves maſters of the forts of GRABUSA, SUDA, SPINA-LONGA, and the town of CANDIA. MAHOMET IV. who was ſenſible that he ſhould never be the quiet poſſeſſor of this important iſland, as long as the Venetians ſhould occupy the capital, in 1667, ſent his viſir ACHMET KUPERLI with a conſiderable army in order to lay ſiege to it. The Venetians, ſtill maſters of the harbour and of the ſea, preſerved the power of tranſmitting ſuccours of every kind; and the place, well fortified and vigorouſly defended, was capable of reſiſting for a long time all the efforts of the Ottoman Empire.

The army of the beſiegers had been ſeveral times reinforced: already were reckoned upwards of one hundred thouſand Turks who had periſhed at the foot of the walls by the fire of the place, or by the exploſion of mines. The Venetians received freſh ſuccour from FRANCE, which would, undoubtedly, have obliged the Turks to retire, when the town, under the command of MOROSINI, capitulated through the artifice of a Greek in the ſervice of the PORTE, after a ſiege of two years and a half, and the loſs of thirty thouſand men, Venetians, Piedmonteſe, and French.

When we arrived in CANDIA, the vice-conſulate was vacant. We found only a ſimple agent, to whom we communicated the project which we had of viſiting the eaſt and middle part of the iſland before we repaired to RETIMO and CANEA. The drogueman, a Jew by birth, more officious than we could have wiſhed, came to recommend to us, the day after our arrival, to wait on the pacha, in order to diſcharge, he ſaid, a duty, and to yield to the wiſh which this reſpectable old man had to ſee us, and to conſult us reſpecting his health. "You will obtain from him," added he, "all the accommodation that you can deſire for viſiting the iſland without "any danger."

Our

GULF OF SUDA, IN THE ISLAND OF CANDIA.



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Neele Sculp. 352 Strand.

Our firſt movement was to refuſe to go to the pacha's, of whom we had nothing to aſk. "What purpoſe can this viſit anſwer?" ſaid we to the drogueman. "It is at leaſt uſeleſs. Shew him our firmans, tell him who "we are, and what we are come here to do: tell him, beſides, that we do "not practiſe phyſic, although we gather plants; and give him to under- "ſtand, that it is very frequently dangerous for a perſon to conſult phy- "ſicians when he is in good health." The drogueman perſiſted: he told us that we could not proceed one ſtep in the iſland if we did not accede to the wiſhes of the pacha. The agent was of his opinion: ſome captains of veſſels, preſent at our converſation, applauded this propoſal: curioſity pleaded alſo in favour of the drogueman: we conſented; and, in the afternoon, we were conducted to the ſeraglio.

We were firſt received in the apartments of the principal officers, who ſpoke to us with eagerneſs of the French revolution, and of the war which we then had to ſuſtain againſt the natural enemies of the PORTE. We replied to all their queſtions with reſerve: this ſubject was too delicate to be treated of in TURKEY. We were offered pipes, coffee, ſherbet, and perfumes, after which it was announced to us that the pacha was ready to receive us.

We had found nothing but ſofas in the apartment of the officers; we ſaw two chairs in that of the pacha, placed at a little diſtance from him. On entering, we made him our ſalutation in the oriental ſtyle, which he returned*. He invited us to ſit down: the drogueman and the agent's ſon ſquatted on a carpet. After the cuſtomary compliments on our ſafe arrival,

* It conſiſts in carrying the right hand to the heart, and inclining the head a little. The Turks pronounce between themſelves their *ſalam alaik*, *ſalam alaik-hem*, which they take good care not to ſay to a non-Muſſulman.

the pacha ſpoke to us of his health, and begged us to feel his pulſe. He was a good-looking old man, upwards of ſeventy years of age. We complied with his requeſt; we told him that he was in good health, and that he had ſtill upwards of twenty years to live. He appeared ſatisfied with this prediction.

He afterwards aſked us what was the object of our travels. "Curioſity "and the deſire of acquiring knowledge," anſwered we, "bring us into "your iſland. We have paſſed ſome months at CONSTANTINOPLE; we "have viſited moſt of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO; we would wiſh "to take a look at the celebrated country which you govern, and gather "ſome of thoſe balſamic plants which Heaven has here ſcattered with pro-"fuſion."—"That cannot be," ſaid he to us coldly: "I cannot give you "ſuch a permiſſion." We ſhewed him our firmans, by which we had the power of viſiting all the countries ſubject to the Ottoman government. "That cannot be," continued the pacha. We inſtanced ſeveral travellers; we ſpoke of ſeamen, who walk about the iſland with the greateſt freedom, who go a ſhooting, and wherever they pleaſe. The pacha ſtill repeated: "That cannot be: your life would be expoſed: to this I cannot conſent."

He talked to us of gangs of thieves and robbers who infeſted the roads, and who would murder us if we were to go to Mount IDA and to GORTYNA, as we wanted. "That cannot be," ſaid we in our turn: "there are no "gangs of thieves and robbers in a country well governed: puniſhment "would follow too cloſe on guilt, for villains to dare to make their appear-"ance."—"No doubt," ſaid the pacha to us: "there are much fewer "robbers ſince I command; but there are ſtill enough for you to be expoſed "to loſe your lives." We deſired the droguoman to cut ſhort a converſation which might become diſagreeable to all, and to obtain permiſſion for us to retire; which was granted.

We were very much aſtoniſhed at this ſtrictneſs of the pacha, and were endeavouring to divine the cauſe of it, when a word from the drogueman afforded us a ray of light. "The pacha," ſaid he to us, "made a difficulty "in granting you what you aſked him, only becauſe there paſſed not long "ago a foreigner, who gave him five hundred piaſtres for going to ſee I forget "what ruins ten leagues from this place."—"Very well," replied we; "tell "the pacha that we will not purchaſe at ſo dear a rate the ſight of ſome "heaps of ſtones, and that he may commit extortions on the Greeks and "Jews if he is in want of money: as for us, we have not five hundred piaſtres, "and if we had, we would find means to employ them to a better purpoſe." The drogueman endeavoured to get us to conſent to ſome ſmaller ſacrifice. "Not a piaſtre, not a parat," ſaid we; "beſides, it ſhould not be through "your means that we would treat, if we ſhould entertain ſuch a wiſh."

It was uſeleſs, in the preſent circumſtances, to make a longer ſtay in CANDIA. We reſolved to go, if poſſible, by land to CANEA, perſuaded that we ſhould find from the conſul every accommodation of which we ſtood in need. We aſked for a janizary to accompany us; the aga ſent us a man well known, who had been ſettled in the town for a long time: a Turkiſh muleteer, himſelf a janizary, furniſhed us with horſes, and ſerved us as a guide. We knew that there was nothing to fear from the Greeks, and two janizaries ſettled and married, who publicly undertook to conduct us to CANEA, were a ſufficient ſecurity to us. We tranquillized the French ſhip-captains, who expreſſed uneaſineſs on our account. We ſent our baggage by ſea with a Greek ſervant, and ſet out by ourſelves, and without baggage, on the 17th of Thermidor (4th of Auguſt) in the morning.

Theſe janizaries, born in the iſland, ſpoke Greek very well, and drank wine and brandy ſtill better. We were extremely well ſatisfied with them; and we learnt, even from their mouth, that the pacha had ſpoken to us

of robbers only in order to get money, and have a pretext for giving us, at our own expenſe, an eſcort on which he would have levied his claims. I ſhould have ſuppreſſed this anecdote, which is of little importance, had I not thought that it may be uſeful to travellers, and did it not ſhew, at the ſame time, how greedy the agents of the Turkiſh government are after money, and what little delicacy they uſe as to the means of procuring it.

The environs of CANDIA preſent a few fertile plains, cultivated, and ſome riſing grounds ſuſceptible of being ſo. At a little diſtance to the ſouth, is ſeen an inſulated mountain, in the form of a pyramid, at the foot of which one paſſes in going to viſit the ruins of GORTYNA: the Europeans know it by the name of JUPITER'S mountain. To the ſouth-weſt, Mount IDA, covered with ſnow almoſt all the year, throws out, on one ſide, ſome branches towards the town; and, on the other, runs to join the mountains of SPRACHIA, in like manner covered with ſnow during eight or nine months.

On going out of the town, we found a low plain, ſomewhat extenſive, watered by two rivulets, after which we croſſed calcareous hills and mountains, on which the Venetians have made paved roads, that have been kept in tolerably good preſervation. We left the firſt links of the chain of Mount IDA very cloſe to us on the left. We ſaw every where, in abundance, ſtorax among the plants and ſhrubs which we had met with in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. We arrived at an early hour at DAMASTA, a village by no means conſiderable, where we paſſed the reſt of the day. We were made to ſet off in the morning before day-light. We traverſed places leſs elevated, leſs arid, and more cultivated than thoſe we had paſſed the day before; fertile plains of little extent and narrow vallies. We ſaw a great many olive-trees, a few vines, a few mulberry-trees, and ſeveral oaks. We reſted under the plane-tree mentioned by TOURNEFORT, near a conſiderable

ſpring.

ſpring which takes its riſe at too ſmall a diſtance from the ſea to ſerve for the watering of the lands. We proceeded for a long time by the ſea-ſide, and we arrived at an early hour at RETIMO.

The environs of this town afford proſpects very pictureſque: gardens planted with orange-trees, among which riſe ſome date-trees; fields covered with olive-trees and kitchen-garden plants; riſing grounds on which the vine, the fig-tree, the mulberry-tree, and the almond-tree grow together; further on, wooded mountains: to the weſt, the citadel, the harbour, and the ſea—every thing concurs to render RETIMO the moſt agreeable town in the iſland. It would have become, perhaps, the richeſt and moſt populous, if the harbour, ſmall as it is, had been kept in order. Its preſent population conſiſts of from five to ſix thouſand inhabitants, half Greeks, half Turks; the Jews there are not ſo numerous as at CANDIA.

RETIMO, built on the ruins of the ancient RITHYMNA, too weakly defended, was plundered and ravaged by the Turks as far back as the year 1572, while SELIM II. was cauſing the ſiege of FAMAGUSTA in CYPRUS to be puſhed on with vigour: but it was not till the reign of IBRAHIM, in 1645, that the Venetians were driven from it for ever.

Though we had alighted with our guides at a caravanſary, we willingly accepted a lodging that was offered to us at the houſe of a Jew, a French *barataire*. In the courſe of the evening his ſon took us all over the town, ſhewed us the harbour and ſome gardens, and related to us the deplorable event which had obliged his father to abſent himſelf.

The pacha of RETIMO, who from a low condition had juſt riſen to great employments by dint of intrigues and money, eager to recover his advances, pay his debts, and acquire freſh riches in order to obtain, with a ſuperior rank,

rank, a government more important, ſuffered no opportunity to eſcape of extorting money from the inhabitants of RETIMO and the unfortunate cultivators of his province; and when occaſions and pretexts were wanting, he taxed juſt in the ſame manner, at ſums more or leſs great, the private perſons ſuſpected to be rich. For ſix months paſt that he had been in the town, Greeks, Jews, and Muſſulmans, all had paid more or leſs. ABRAHAMAKI, *barataire* and agent of the Republic, had flattered himſelf that the pacha would not dare to apply to him; he was miſtaken. ABRAHAMAKI was reckoned rich: the pacha could not find it in his heart to ſuffer this prey to eſcape. He ſent to him for ten thouſand piaſtres, at the ſame time aſſuring him of his protection if he paid them inſtantly. The Jew refuſed to part with that ſum. The pacha inſiſted and threatened. ABRAHAMAKI then addreſſed himſelf to the French conſul at CANEA (Citizen HENRY MURE), and communicated to him the ſituation in which he ſtood. The conſul immediately went to RETIMO. The pacha, who was informed of the circumſtance, cauſed the Jew to be ſeized, ordered him to be put in irons in the ſeraglio, and threatened to have him cudgelled to death if he did not pay down inſtantly the ſum required.

What could the conſul do in this extremity? Wait on the pacha, claim his juſtice, demand the execution of the capitulations: the Jew would not, on that account, the leſs periſh. Every one acknowledged that the pacha was capable of this atrocity. The family of ABRAHAMAKI aſſembled; all the Jews of RETIMO made a ſtir: they deliberated: every one was of opinion to pay. The priſoner himſelf, fearing for his life, wrote to his friends, begged them to count the ſum which the pacha required, and ſend word to the conſul to undertake nothing in his favour. The money being paid, the Jew was releaſed; but the pacha once more threatened to have him cudgelled to death if he uttered the ſmalleſt complaint.

This

This abuſe of authority could not be tolerated without great inconveniences. The pacha had dared to make an attack on the fortune and liberty of an agent of the Republic; he ought to be puniſhed. To ſay nothing, was an act of cowardice; this was in ſome meaſure to authorize this wicked man to commit every day freſh acts of tyranny. Shortly no ſhip-captain would have dared either to take in oil at RETIMO, or to land on theſe parts become too dangerous. We learnt, a few days after, that the conſul had ſent word to the agent to conceal himſelf from the reſentment of the pacha, and that he had written to Citizen DESCORCHES, envoy extraordinary at the Ottoman PORTE, in order to communicate to him what had juſt happened.

The complaint of the conſul was ſupported by thoſe which were preferred at the ſame time by the pacha of CANDIA, on account of other extortions of a nature no leſs flagrant. The PORTE, which tacitly allows its agents to ſqueeze and torment tributary ſubjects, cannot without danger ſuffer the Muſſulmans, and ſtill leſs perſons under the immediate protection of foreign powers to be laid under too ſevere a contribution. The pacha of RETIMO, on the requeſt of Citizen DESCORCHES and of the pacha of CONSTANTINOPLE, was diſplaced, and condemned to make reſtitution of the ſums extorted. He obeyed the firſt part of the orders of the PORTE; but he declared to the *chiaoux* who came to intimate them to him, that no fear, no motive could determine him to reimburſe the money which he had exacted.

We ſaw him arrive a few days after us, at CANEA: he was ſaluted by the guns of the fort, and received a viſit from the agas and the principal inhabitants of the town. He himſelf paid a viſit to the pacha of CANEA, and haſtened his departure for the MOREA, whither he was going to wait the effect of his new intrigues at CONSTANTINOPLE.

In

In the mean time all thoſe who had money to claim, and who were ſpecially deſignated in the firman of the PORTE, preſented themſelves, either to the pacha of CANDIA, or to that of CANEA, in order to be reimburſed before the departure of their plunderer. It is probable that theſe two pachas affected to endeavour to determine the pacha of RETIMO to make the reſtitution ordered by the PORTE, ſince he ſaid loudly that if the ſmalleſt violence were attempted againſt him, he would put himſelf at the head of his people and repel force by force. It was in vain that the obedience which he owed to the orders of the ſultan was repreſented to him: he did not the leſs perſiſt in declaring that the ſight even of the inſtruments of puniſhment could not determine him to it, and that no authority could compel him. He therefore departed without any one daring to undertake any thing againſt him. He received the civilities of the pacha of CANEA, and was again ſaluted by the guns of the fort, as if he had not been a rebellious ſubject, and as if he had carried with him the regret of the inhabitants.

We are ignorant of the ſequel of this buſineſs; but it is probable that by means of the money which he had extorted, money which his agents at CONSTANTINOPLE will have ſkilfully ſcattered among perſonages of influence, not only this man, doubly culpable, will not have been puniſhed, but he will even have obtained a place more honourable and more lucrative than the former.

The next day, the 19th of Thermidor, (6th of Auguſt) we ſet out at ſunriſe, at the ſame time expreſſing our wiſhes that the Turks who outrage humanity, who oppreſs in a revolting manner the nations that they have conquered and ſtripped, may be one day forced to return to the wild and diſtant countries whence they would never have iſſued, perhaps, if the Greeks had known how to preſerve the virtues of their anceſtors.

For

For a long while we contemplated, to the north-weſt of the town, the citadel built on a maſs of ſteep rocks, advanced into the ſea. We proceeded for ſome time along a hilly and difficult road, and we arrived at the ſhore of ARMIRO, after having croſſed a ſmall river which runs at the foot of the mountain. Beyond the beach we ſaw two fine ſprings, the one of ſalt-water; the other, more conſiderable, of freſh: farther on, ſtands the fort of ARMIRO, built by the Venetians, for defending a gorge, and preventing pirates or enemies who might make a deſcent on the beach, from being able to penetrate by that way into the interior of the country.

We then roſe higher by degrees, and we found ourſelves at the foot of the mountain called MALAXA (Μαλαξα), in ſight of the Gulf of SUDA. This mountain is ſchiſtoſe and granitical at its baſe; whereas all thoſe which we had ſeen till then, had appeared to us calcareous, and for the moſt part cretaceous.

Ranging along the mountain, whoſe direction is from eaſt to weſt, we paſſed, without ſuſpecting it, within reach of the ruins of AMPHIMALE, of which we ſhall ſoon have occaſion to ſpeak.

We deſcended by a paved road into a fertile plain, tolerably well cultivated. We paſſed at a little diſtance from the Gulf of SUDA, and arrived early at CANEA, much leſs tired by the length of the route, than fatigued by the exceſſive heat which we had experienced.

Citizen MURE, who had been a long time expecting us, would not allow us to lodge at the convent of the Capuchins, on account of the indecorous behaviour in which an Italian monk, to whom the houſe was intruſted, indulged himſelf towards the French. We here thank him for his attention on this ſubject, for the civilities which we received at his houſe,

and for the valuable information which he gave us. We are likewiſe indebted to Citizen MAGALON, a merchant, for intereſting details reſpecting the productions of the iſland, the trade that is there carried on, the population of the country-places, and ſome cuſtoms which are there eſtabliſhed.

CANEA, much leſs extenſive than CANDIA, is in proportion more populous. Here are reckoned upwards of four thouſand Turks, two or three thouſand Greeks, a hundred and fifty Jews, four French houſes, and ſome Italian houſes; the latter are under the protection of the emperor of GERMANY, or the Republic of RAGUSA.

The town is ſurrounded by a ſtrong wall and a wide ditch: it has but one gate on the land ſide. The harbour is defended by batteries in good condition. To the left, on entering, is remarked a jetty parallel to the coaſt, behind which a ſomewhat great number of veſſels might anchor if the bottom were cleanſed. The largeſt are obliged to remain near the entrance of the harbour, expoſed to the waves of a rough ſea when the northerly winds blow with a little violence.

Facing the jetty is ſeen, as at CANDIA, a range of roofed docks, which the Venetians had conſtructed for building and ſheltering their gallies.

CANEA ſcarcely held out for a few days againſt the Turks, who came to attack it in 1645. CORNARO, who commanded the Venetian troops, came out of it with arms and baggage in order to retire to RETIMO, where he was killed a little time after, in wiſhing to defend that town, much leſs important and much leſs capable of reſiſtance than CANEA.

The neareſt mountains, parallel to the coaſt, leave between them a plain upwards of a league in width, which extends over a ſpace of twelve or fifteen miles,

miles, from the head of the Gulf of SUDA to the environs of DICTYMNA, a mountain that ſtretches to the north, and forms the advanced promontory which formerly bore the ſame name, and which the Italians deſignate at this day under that of *CAPO SPADA*. This plain is, in general, tolerably fertile and almoſt entirely cultivated. Gardens of orange-trees, foreſts of olive-trees, a few ſcattered vineyards, fields deſtined for the culture of wheat, barley, cotton, ſeſamum, maize, melons, and different legumes, thoſe are what it preſents every where.

Following the ſea-ſhore to the weſt of the town, you croſs a miry rivulet; then you ſee near the coaſt a ſhoal and the little deſert iſland of SAN THEODORO, on which the Venetians had erected a battery for preventing a deſcent on the beach. When you have paſſed the iſland, you arrive at PLATANIA, an extenſive, ſolitary, and rural walk, where grow ſpontaneouſly plane-trees which excite aſtoniſhment from their ſize and number. Each of them ſupports one or two vine-plants, which embrace the whole extent of the tree, and furniſh in abundance, without care and without culture, grapes with large ſtones, of an excellent quality. As they ripen very late in theſe ſhaded places, they are ſeen to arrive with pleaſure at the markets of CANEA, when the others are beginning to diſappear. A ſmall river waters and traverſes this agreeable foreſt, and there diffuſes life and coolneſs.

We had been for a long time at CANEA: we had already viſited the environs of the town, and gathered on the mountains the dittany and the ebony of CRETE, and moſt of the intereſting plants of the iſland: we had been preſent at village-feſtivals, when it was propoſed to us to go and ſee the ruins of *PALEO-CASTRO*, which we ſuſpect to be thoſe of *APTERA*, according to the account of ſome travellers.

After a journey of an hour and a half, we arrived at the Greek monaſtery, *Ayia Kiriaki*, ſituated to the ſouth-weſt of Canea. We there left our horſes, and took a guide to conduct us to the ruins which we wiſhed to examine. We aſcended by a very bad road, over a ſteep rock, making part of the firſt chain of mountains, which we have ſaid to be parallel to the coaſt. We ſoon came to a thick wall that led us to a lawn on which we remarked the remains of a fort almoſt ſquare, flanked by towers. The walls of this fort, as well as thoſe of the ramparts with which the town was ſurrounded, are nearly a toiſe in thickneſs. They were of a ſolid conſtruction, and faced with hewn-ſtone, which, in ſome places, is ſtill to be perceived.

We came out from this encloſure by the ſouth wall, and found ourſelves on a ground commanded by a chain of rocks more lofty and more ſteep than thoſe on which the fort was ſituated. This ſpace is terminated to the weſt by other perpendicular rocks, which form a natural rampart around it, ſeparating it from the ſurrounding mountains, and rendering it inacceſſible on that ſide.

This rock was itſelf ſurmounted by a thick wall, and ſtrengthened by towers at certain diſtances. The town was ſituated between the fortreſs and the wall, by which we arrived, and the perpendicular rocks which we have juſt mentioned. This ſpace was ſufficient for a town of moderate ſize. Here we neither found inſcriptions nor baſs-reliefs, nor veſtiges of temples or ſumptuous edifices, nothing that could indicate to us the ancient name of this town.

If Kissamos ſituated between Cape Grabusa and Cape Spada, twenty miles to the weſt of Canea were formerly the harbour of Aptera, as appears evident, according to the text of the ancient authors, and if Canea occupy

occupy the place of CYDONIA, as is commonly imagined, STRABO is miſtaken when he ſays that APTERA was but ten miles from CYDONIA. But if ancient CYDONIA were forty ſtada from its harbour, as is thought by the author of the *Legiſlation de Crete*, page 473, then it is probable that we ſaw the ruins of that town, and that thoſe of APTERA are ten miles to the weſt, facing KISSAMOS, as STRABO ſays: they are thoſe which TOURNEFORT viſited, and of which he ſpeaks*.

A quarter of a league to the eaſt of CANEA, is ſeen a riſing ground, and, farther on, ſome calcareous hills, the greater part naked, which advance into the ſea, and form a peninſula terminated by Cape MELECCA. The monaſtery of the TRINITY lies among theſe hills: it is inhabited by a great number of friars, who almoſt all apply themſelves to the culture of the land. We remarked with pleaſure in the environs of the monaſtery, ſome ſuperb orchards of olive-trees, a few vineyards, and ſome fields, intended for the culture of different ſpecies of corn. We ſaw a great many bees, and a vaſt number of goats and ſheep: there were among others in the garden a ricinus or *Palma Chriſti* planted ſeveral years ago, which indicated by its vigour that the greater part of the plants of the warmeſt climates might be introduced into CRETE. We ſpent ſome days with theſe friars, and we went from this place to the monaſtery of ST. JOHN, ſituated towards the cape, on an elevated lawn. The friars are here not ſo numerous, becauſe the lands which they have to cultivate are not ſo good nor ſo extenſive as thoſe belonging to the convent of the TRINITY.

We deſcended from Cape MELECCA by a narrow gorge and by a road made between frightful precipices, which furniſhed us with ſome intereſting plants. Towards the middle of the declivity, ſtands a building partly de-

* *Voyage au Levant*, vol. i. page 81.

ſtroyed,

ſtroyed, depending on the monaſtery of ST. JOHN, formerly inhabited by a few friars to whom the guard of this gorge was intruſted.

The Gulf of SUDA *(PLATE VIII)*, a ſpacious natural harbour, one of the fineſt and ſafeſt of the ARCHIPELAGO, lies to the ſouth of the peninſula of which we have juſt ſpoken. Its mouth is to the eaſt, and its head runs to the weſt north-weſt: it is not only ſheltered by the angles and capes which the lands form, but alſo by the two Iſlets of SUDA, on one of which is ſituated the fort conſtructed by the Venetians, and which they preſerved a great while after the iſland was no longer in their poſſeſſion. It was not till the reign of ACHMET III. that the Turks made themſelves maſters of this fort, and by thoſe means became the tranquil poſſeſſors of the whole Iſland of CRETE.

The anchorage the moſt frequented by the commanders of veſſels who wiſh only to ſhelter themſelves from a gale of wind, is to the ſouth ſouth-weſt of Cape MELECCA, behind a ſmall iſland, known to mariners under the name of *OLD SUDA*. Large ſhips of war anchor at all places, either at the entrance of the gulf, or by the ſide of the iſland which we have juſt mentioned. Both of them go to the head of the gulf only when they are to remain a long time at the anchorage. The boats belonging to the country ſometimes caſt anchor between the two Iſlands of SUDA.

Half a league from the ſea, to the ſouth of this gulf, are to be met with on an elevated ground the ruins of AMPHIMALE. All the walls of this town, though in a great meaſure deſtroyed, may be eaſily traced; every where are ſeen in their encloſure, rubbiſh and heaps of ſtones formed by cultivators. Two vaſt ciſterns riſe above theſe ruins, and leave people to divine how they could be filled. They are diſtinguiſhable from the red cement with which they are faced internally, and above all from the mark which

the waters have there left. One part of the town was on a plain, the other followed the ſlope of the ground inclined towards the ſea. We remarked in the eaſt part, the remains of the gates of the town. We in vain looked for marbles, inſcriptions, and baſs-reliefs; every thing has diſappeared or ſerved for the conſtruction of a Greek monaſtery which has been erected on theſe ruins, and in which we were happy to paſs the night.

From the time of our arrival in CRETE till the approaches of the autumnal equinox, REAUMUR'S thermometer, with ſpirits of wine, was conſtantly during the day, at 25, 26, and ſeldom at 27 degrees, in a room with a north-eaſt aſpect. We had at moſt had 25 degrees at SANTORIN and at MILO; 22, and 23 at NAXIA. True it is that the ſeaſon was ſomewhat leſs advanced when we viſited thoſe iſlands.

During the three ſummer months, the exceſſive heat of the ſun is conſtantly tempered every day, from eight or nine o'clock in the morning till the evening, by the rather rapid current of air which prevails from north to ſouth in the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO and on the northern coaſt of CRETE. This refreſhing wind, called *embat*, takes its courſe and is modified throughout the LEVANT, according to the direction of the coaſts and the extent of ſea which lies before them. We ſhall remark, by the way, that it is ſouth-weſt on the ſouthern coaſt of CRETE, of CYPRUS, and of CARAMANIA; nearly north-weſt at SMYRNA and ALEXANDRIA; weſt at TYRE, SIDON, and on all the coaſt of SYRIA. It comes to ATHENS, from the weſt or from the Gulf of LEPANTE; and this it is which the Greeks deſignated under the name of Zephyr. During the night, the wind takes a contrary direction; it comes from the land to the ſea; it is more faint than during the day, and never extends beyond three or four leagues.

The

The winds are variable in the other ſeaſons, eſpecially towards the equinoxes: at the end of Fructidor, we experienced, with a ſoutherly wind which laſted two days, a heat of from 30 to 32 degrees. The horizon was then as if charged with ſmoke, and the rays of the ſun were reddiſh and faint, as is remarked in EGYPT, when the ſame wind is felt. Citizen PEYRON, a ſhip-captain, told us that being at anchor at SUDA, on the 30th of May, 1793, the heat became ſo conſiderable from eight to eleven o'clock at night, during a gale of wind from the ſouth, that people could ſcarcely breathe, and every one felt a general faintneſs. The iron guns of his ſhip had contracted ſo violent a degree of heat, that a perſon could not lean his hand on them without being forced to withdraw it immediately. This fact was certified to us by Citizen MURE and the other Frenchmen ſettled at CANEA. It is to be regretted that no one aſcertained, by means of the thermometer, the true degree of heat which prevailed during this memorable evening.

Though the cold is ſharply felt in winter, on IDA and on the ſummit of the *WHITE MOUNTAINS*, and though they are covered with ſnow as early as the end of Brumaire, the temperature is, nevertheleſs, very mild in the plains and towards the coaſts. There it does not freeze: there the rains are frequent, but of ſhort duration. The ſun appears almoſt immediately after the rain, and the ſky is frequently clear and ſerene. In ſummer it never rains, either in CRETE, or in the Iſlands of the ÆGEAN SEA. The dew is then ſufficient for the ſupport of the vegetation of the plants which grow ſpontaneouſly in theſe climates. Almoſt all the others muſt be watered, if it be wiſhed to cultivate them with any ſucceſs.

It has been remarked at CANEA, that when the wind is to the northward or to the eaſtward, the waters of the ſea are very low, and that they are, on the contrary, high, when the wind blows from the weſtern quarter, or even when

when it is in that direction in the offing, although it may not yet have reached the iſland. The difference which we ourſelves obſerved on the level of the waters during the ſtay that we made in CRETE, is about two feet. In the ſummer, the waters are, in the harbour, eight or ten inches below the top of a rock ſituated oppoſite to the windows of the conſul's houſe: they riſe eight or ten inches above this rock when the wind ſhifts to the weſt. Citizen MURE even aſſured us that in violent weſterly gales, the level of the waters roſe always ſeven or eight inches higher, ſo as to cover other rocks ſituated oppoſite to the angle of the houſe which Citizen MAGALON, a merchant, occupies towards the entrance of the harbour.

This difference in the level of the waters has nothing to do with the flux and reflux which is obſerved in ſome parts of the MEDITERRANEAN. It proceeds only from the ſtrength of the wind, which, in the former caſe, impels the waters from the coaſts towards the open ſea, and, in the latter, brings them from the open ſea towards the coaſts. At CANEA, the ſouth wind produces no very perceptible difference, while it raiſes, in a very remarkable manner, the waters in all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, and on all the coaſts of the ÆGEAN SEA.

On the 7th of Brumaire (28th of October) at five o'clock in the morning, we felt at CANEA, an earthquake the ſhocks of which, though of no great violence, laſted ſome ſeconds: it was calm at this moment; but ſhortly after the weſterly wind blew with impetuoſity for ſeveral days. The inhabitants told us that earthquakes are not uncommon among them; and if we conſult hiſtory, we ſee that this iſland has experienced very terrible ones at different periods. The moſt remarkable is that which took place in 1490: it extended over the whole iſland, from eaſt to weſt, and occaſioned very conſiderable damage.

CHAPTER XII.

Diviſion of the iſland.—Of the agas.—Of their rights on the lands.—Of the police which they exerciſe.—Reflections on this ſubject.—Of the nations which have ſucceeded each other in Crete.—*Of the Abadiots.—Of the Sphachiots.—Hiſtorical ſummary reſpecting* Lambro Canziani.

THE Iſland of CRETE is divided into three pachaliks or governments, the chief places of which are CANDIA, CANEA, and RETIMO. In the firſt of theſe towns is a pacha with three tails, *ſeraſkier*, or general in chief of all the forces of the iſland. In the other two, is a pacha with two tails, independent of that of CANDIA, as to the adminiſtrative part and the police, but ſubject to him in every thing that concerns the military department. All three, in their turn and in their provinces, are to ſuperintend the collection of the impoſt, and the ſafety of the places which are intruſted to them. They are alſo bound to cauſe juſtice to be done by the cadis, and to order their ſentences to be executed, as we have ſaid elſewhere.

The pachaliks are divided into a certain number of diſtricts, and each diſtrict compriſes, in its extent, a certain number of villages, ſome of which belong to the imperial moſques, ſome to the ſultana-mother; and the greater number, under the name of *MALIKIANE-AGASSI*, are granted for life to agas or lords, in conſideration of a ſum of money, more or leſs great, paid into the imperial treaſury before the firman of inveſtiture, and an annual quit-rent, which is carried into the coffers of the treaſurer of CANDIA, for the maintenance of the fortreſſes and the pay of the troops of the country.

All

All land-owners, Greeks or Muſſulmans, pay to the aga, to the moſque, or to the ſultan, a ſeventh of the produce of their lands. They are alſo obliged to carry their olives to the mills which the agas alone have a right to cauſe to be conſtructed. Oil pays a ſeventh; and, what becomes a very important object to the lord, the cruſts*, or miry waters, which remain as an indemnification for the workmen whom he places at the mill for the extraction of the oil, and for the horſes that he furniſhes for the preſſing of the olives.

The police of the village belongs to the aga: for this purpoſe he appoints a *ſoubachi*, a Muſſulman like himſelf, a ſubaltern tyrant, always more greedy, more untractable, than his maſter. Being an informer of every thing he ſees, of every thing he hears, a troubleſome inquiſitor into the fortune of all, inceſſantly occupied in ſetting the inhabitants at variance, in fomenting hatred among them, the ſoubachi is the moſt miſchievous being that Turkiſh policy has created for the misfortune of the Greeks. The aga makes uſe of him for puniſhing the ſmalleſt faults, real or ſuppoſed, by arbitrary fines, by impriſonment, and not unfrequently even by the baſtinado.

The Greeks appoint among themſelves a *capitan*, or primate, charged to conciliate people's minds, and to terminate in an amicable manner the differences which may ariſe among them. He is a juſtice of peace, to whoſe opinion the wiſeſt always ſubmit, in order to avoid the formidable claw of the cadi, to whoſe tribunal all litigious affairs are carried as a laſt reſort. The primate alſo watches over the intereſt of all. To him it is

* Cruſts or lees. From theſe a rather conſiderable quantity of oil is drawn, as well as from the waters which have been poured boiling on the lees after the extraction of the virgin oil. Theſe waters are received into large reſervoirs: the oil which detaches itſelf from the lees, or thick part, riſes by degrees to the ſurface of the water.

that the aga addreſſes himſelf when he has orders to give, or requeſts to make; when he requires labourers for the culture of his fields, or for works of public utility. The Greeks alſo appoint a *daſcalos*, or writer, who keeps a regiſter of the names of the inhabitants, of the ſums at which they are taxed for their karatch, and of thoſe which they are to pay the aga after each harveſt.

No Greek can marry without the permiſſion of the aga, a permiſſion which he muſt purchaſe by a preſent, ſuch as a ſheep, a lamb, or a few fowls. If the fair one pleaſe the aga, he ſometimes keeps her for himſelf, without any one daring to oppoſe it. The cudgel is always ready to ſtrike the reluctant Greek; and woe be to the audacious man who ſhould prefer a complaint to the pacha or to the PORTE! He would pay with his fortune, and frequently with his head, for ſuch a ſtep. The aga, in this caſe, marries, in the *kapin* manner, with the free conſent, or what is underſtood to be ſuch, of this woman. Ottoman manners oppoſe his living with her; and if ſhe perſiſted in refuſing to receive his hand, however powerful the aga might be, he would be obliged to deſiſt from his pretenſions. Not unfrequently, after having kept this Greek woman two or three years, he turns her off for another, and marries her to ſome Greek inhabitant of the village, who dares not refuſe her. It is aſſerted, that it is uncommon for a Greek woman not to be flattered at ſharing the bed of her lord, young or old, whatever may be the ſhame which the men attach to it, and the fate that ſhe muſt experience ſooner or later; ſo true it is that here, as elſewhere, authority is ſeductive, and vanity not to be reſiſted.

Married men are not permitted to quit the iſland, unleſs they are mariners or merchants. There has been ſeen hanging to the maſt of his boat a *karavokéri**, who had dared to infringe this law, and who had, by ſtealth,

* Maſter or captain of a bark, boat, or veſſel.

carried

carried unhappy beings to the Gulf of EPHESUS. Bachelors are, nevertheleſs, permitted to go and work in the MOREA and elſewhere; but a tax of ſixty parats or two piaſtres a head is required of them before their departure.

If a murder happen in the village, or on its territory, and the delinquent be not known, the aga muſt pay to the pacha a ſum of money, which he levies on all the inhabitants. He retains a part for himſelf: this is the cuſtom in TURKEY; never does money paſs through the hands of a man without his keeping a portion of it. Taxes here are always arbitrary, and more or leſs heavy, according to the population and the circumſtances of the inhabitants. If it be a Muſſulman who has been found dead, the ſum demanded is exorbitant, becauſe religion has been outraged in one of its members. Such an aſſaſſination, beſides, is almoſt always followed by the death of ſeveral Greeks. The relations and friends of the deceaſed think it their duty, and that their honour is intereſted, to aſſaſſinate, in their turn, the firſt inhabitants that happen to fall in their way; and though the law does not authorize them to do this, and ought even to puniſh them, they are almoſt always abſolved by popular opinion.

If a Greek have committed a ſerious offence, or if he be accuſed of any, which amounts nearly to the ſame thing, the pacha intervenes, and demands the delinquent, in order to have him tried and condemned. For this purpoſe he muſt apply to the aga, who gives him up immediately, or defends him till after the ſentence of the cadi. The Greek often gets out of a ſcrape, by means of the arrangements which he enters into with his aga, and of the ſacrifices which he makes towards him and the pacha. He who has nothing, pays with his head; he who poſſeſſes ſomething, is inceſſantly expoſed to loſe it, as has been ſhewn: this depends on the will of the pacha, and frequently too on that of the ſoubachi.

With all the means which the law of the ſtrongeſt has put into the hands of the aga, it may well be ſuſpected that he never fails to abuſe them, and to ſqueeze as much as he can the unfortunate cultivators. For inſtance, he purchaſes, at a low price, their commodities (with the exception of wine), which he generally does not pay for till after he has ſold them, and derived from them conſiderable profit.

All that I have juſt ſaid is applicable only to the Greek villages ſubject to the agas. Thoſe which belong to moſques, or to the ſultana-mother, are ſomewhat leſs oppreſſed than the others, becauſe the cultivators may have their complaints heard by the ſultan or the inſpectors of the moſques, who are intereſted in protecting them againſt the agents that they employ for the recovery of their rights. The Turkiſh villages, like thoſe of the Greeks, are ſubject to the police of the aga. Owners of eſtates pay in the ſame manner; but they are all exempt from gratuitous labour, and the aga would ſoon be diſplaced and puniſhed, if all the inhabitants preferred at once their complaints to the pacha, or to the PORTE, againſt any injuſtice of too revolting a nature.

It is unneceſſary to repeat here that the Greeks can neither occupy employments emanating from the government, nor can be admitted into any corps of troops, unleſs they have embraced the religion of MAHOMET.

Thus it is that the iſland, which ſo long proſpered under the laws of MINOS, is at this day governed; thus it is that the inhabitants of a country, where liberty in a manner took birth, are bent under the yoke of the moſt ſhameful ſlavery, notwithſtanding the ſea which ſurrounds them, and the mountains by which they are defended.

Subject

Subject to the laws which a virtuous king had preſented to them in the name of the Divinity, who undoubtedly inſpired him, the Cretans were wiſe and happy; they were ſo when, ſatisfied with neceſſaries, they ſolely ſought their ſubſiſtence in the boſom of the earth which they themſelves cultivated, and in the produce of the flocks that they reared on the mountains with which the iſland is covered.

When they wiſhed to procure themſelves ſuperfluities; when they modified or changed the laws of their legiſlator; when every city wiſhed to form an independent ſtate; when the rich, a long time at variance with the poor, ſucceeded in getting poſſeſſion of power, then the citizens deſtined to defend the country were diſtinguiſhed from thoſe who were to feed it; then the fields were no longer cultivated but by the hand of ſlaves; private education and public inſtitutions all ſtill tended, indeed, to render man robuſt and ſkilful, courageous, and intrepid; but morals were relaxed, the public mind was enervated, and the authority of the laws was frequently called in queſtion. The Cretans, become reſtleſs and turbulent, ambitious and covetous, waged unjuſt wars, plundered their neighbours, and deſtroyed each other. Preſently, the field of their robbery being no longer ſufficiently extenſive, they infeſted the ſeas with their veſſels, diſturbed the tranquillity of the nations of the ARCHIPELAGO, and moleſted their commerce: they were on the point of deſtroying it, had not the Rhodians armed themſelves in defence of all, and ſucceeded in burning, ſinking, or diſperſing, for ſome time, the fleets of theſe pirates.

From that period it was no longer the love of liberty that ſtill upheld for a few moments the degenerated Cretans; it was the love of independence, it was a remnant of their ancient valour, it was the courage and virtue of their anceſtors, that ſtill guided them in battle. They for a long time reſiſted the Romans, already maſters of a part of the world; they

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even beat them ſometimes, but were obliged to yield to the talents and fortune of METELLUS; they loſt their fleets, and found themſelves forced to abandon their laws, and receive thoſe of the conquerors.

When, under the emperors of the EAST, chriſtianity was introduced into this iſland, liberty for a conſiderable time had no longer exiſted: the courage of the inhabitants, enfeebled by a foreign yoke, became daily more enervated under a mild and comforting religion, which preached obedience, humility, and a contempt for the bleſſings of this world. Accordingly, the Saracens, led on by the love of conqueſt and the wiſh of propagating their creed, had only to make their appearance in 823 in order to become maſters of the iſland, and to eſtabliſh themſelves there, in ſpite of the efforts of MICHAEL II. emperor of CONSTANTINOPLE. NICEPHORUS PHOCAS, as intrepid a warrior as an unſkilful ſovereign, drove the Saracens from CRETE in 961, and re-united that iſland to the empire of the EAST, of which it formed a part till the capture of CONSTANTINOPLE by the cruſaders, in 1204. The Marquis DE MONTFERRAT ſold it in, 1211, to the Venetians, who were already eſtabliſhed in ſome iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, and the latter preſerved it till they were driven from it by the Turks.

Among the people who at this day inhabit the Iſland of CRETE, are to be remarked Abadiots, Muſſulmans by religion, Arabs by origin, and remains of thoſe Saracens of whom we have juſt ſpoken. Their countenance, different from that of the Turks, and the Arabic language which they ſpeak among themſelves, leave no doubt on this ſubject. Swarthy, meagre, and of middling ſtature, the Abadiots are miſtruſtful, malicious, and vindictive: they always go armed, like the Turks, and kill each other on the ſmalleſt provocation. They occupy twenty little villages to the ſouth of Mount IDA, and form a population of about four thouſand perſons. They receive

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and give an aſylum in their houſes to the Turks and the Greeks who have committed any crimes; but they require them to remain quiet, and not to meddle in their affairs. If theſe malefactors become troubleſome, if they give any cauſe of diſſatisfaction, the Abadiots themſelves kill them, in order to get rid of them; but, in no caſe, do they give them up to juſtice, by which they are claimed and purſued. Reſtrained by the Turks and the Greeks, and watched by their agas, the Abadiots dare not indulge themſelves too openly in robbery. However, they ſometimes make incurſions into the Greek monaſteries which lie within reach of their villages, and when they can, lay the friars under contribution.

It was they who, in 1772, plundered an Engliſh veſſel, after having murdered her crew. The captain, having kept the ſea for a long time, wiſhed to approach the ſouth coaſt of the iſland, in order to look for an anchorage, and renew his ſtock of water. The ſight of a cultivated land attracted him into a cove in the vicinity of the PAXIMADE Iſlands, where he rightly ſuppoſed that he would find water. No ſooner was the veſſel brought to an anchor, than almoſt all the crew haſtened to land, in order to look for the ſpring or the rivulet which the appearance of the ground indicated. All on ſudden a troop of Abadiots fell on them, cut them to pieces, and repaired on board, by means of the ſhip's longboat, before the captain could ſuſpect what had happened on ſhore.

The inhabitants of the high mountains ſituated to the ſouth of CANEA and RETIMO, are conſidered as the real deſcendants of thoſe famous Cretans ſo long maſters of the country. Known at the preſent day under the name of *Sphachiots*, they are diſtinguiſhed from the other Greeks by their tall ſtature, by their handſome look, by their love of liberty, by their courage, their ſkill, and, above all, by the hatred which they have vowed againſt the uſurpers of their iſland.

Mountains have been at all times, and among all nations, the laſt aſylum of liberty, as they have always been the abode of ſtrength and health. A rugged, untractable ſoil, which affords little ſubſiſtence, which compels man to a long and obſtinate labour, which ſubjects him to ſobriety, and condemns him to all ſorts of privations, ſcarcely tempts conquering nations, when every rock, beſides, is transformed into a fortreſs, when it is neceſſary to fight at every ſtep vigorous, energetic men, who defend with obſtinacy the ſoil which has given them birth, and the independence which it procures them.

Under the Romans, under the Saracens, under the Venetians, and under the Turks, the Sphachiots had found means to preſerve their laws and their cuſtoms. They annually appointed their magiſtrates in the general aſſemblies of the people. Obliged by the Turks to tranſport, in ſummer, from the top of their mountains, the ice neceſſary for the conſumption of the inhabitants of CANEA and RETIMO*, they paid no tax, no impoſt; they had no agas; they never ſaw among them the agents of the Turkiſh government; they formed, in a word, a republic in ſome meaſure independent, when, in 1769, ſome Ruſſian emiſſaries came to diſturb the peace, and impair the happineſs which theſe privileged Greeks enjoyed on their mountains.

Whether CATHERINE had really conceived the project of expelling the Turks from EUROPE, and of placing her grandſon on the throne of CONSTANTINE; whether ſhe wiſhed only to call the attention of her enemies to a diſtance from the places whither ſhe was going to carry her principal forces; it is certain that, on the unexpected appearance of ſome Ruſſian line-of-battle ſhips, in February 1770, in the environs of CORON and of NAVARIN, all the Greeks of the MOREA, thoſe of MACEDONIA and of EPIRUS,

* The inhabitants of CANDIA procure it from Mount IDA.

and

and the greater part of thoſe of the ARCHIPELAGO, roſe at the ſame inſtant, flew to arms, and manifeſted a courage of which they were not thought capable. At this period twenty thouſand muſkets diſtributed opportunely, and ten thouſand Ruſſians commanded by experienced generals, would certainly have produced, throughout European TURKEY, a revolution which would for ever have delivered the Greeks of thoſe countries from the Ottoman yoke.

The Sphachiots, in theſe circumſtances, were not the laſt to take up arms. Some hundreds of the braveſt among them went and joined the Mainots their friends, and proceeded together to offer their ſervices to Count ORLOFF. A greater number were preparing to ſet out, when they received an account that the Ruſſians, who had but three ſhips of the line and two frigates, which were deſtitute of military ſtores and land-forces, had raiſed the ſiege of CORON, and deſerted the Greeks, who had already made themſelves maſters of NAVARIN, PATRAS, MISITRA, and ſome other towns leſs important.

The Albanian Muſſulmans, againſt whom no precaution had been taken, either by ſea or by land, they who a few batteries on the Iſthmus of CORINTH, and a few veſſels of ſmall force in the Gulfs of LEPANTE and ATHENS, would have prevented from coming into the MOREA, immediately ſpread themſelves over that peninſula, beat every where the Greeks, diſheartened by the unexpected retreat of the Ruſſians, and made among them a horrible ſlaughter. The ravage which theſe Albanians committed on that unfortunate land, will never be repaired as long as the Turks ſhall be maſters of thoſe countries, and the caprice of a few rulers ſhall be able to diſpoſe of the fortunes and the lives of the inhabitants.

The pacha of CANDIA, informed of the conduct of the Sphachiots, reſolved, in the ſame year 1770, to march againſt them with all the forces of the iſland. He wiſhed to exterminate them, and by thoſe means afford a terrible example of ſeverity to all the Greeks who might be tempted to imitate them. The Turks, always ready to fight when they are perſuaded that there are chriſtians to be killed, towns to be plundered, boys and girls to be violated, and ſlaves of all ages and of both ſexes to be ſold, were ſoon united under their colours. Soldiers and cultivators, traders and workmen, all wiſhed to take a part in this expedition. Fifteen thouſand men, armed at all points, arrived in a few days at the neareſt mountains, on which they found not one inhabitant. The women and children of the Sphachiots, accompanied by the old men and the infirm, had gained the moſt elevated ſpots, and the moſt inacceſſible places. Thoſe whoſe age allowed them to handle a muſket or a ſword, to the number of upwards of two thouſand, poſted with intelligence at the ſecond chain of their mountains, diſputed with courage every rock, ſtopped for a long time, at every gorge, the Turks by no means habituated to this manner of fighting; and when a paſſage was forced, or a rock carried, the Sphachiots, lightly clothed, and lightly armed, accuſtomed to climb mountains, diſappeared in a moment; while the Turk, who knows not how to fight but on horſeback, who is both heavily clothed, and heavily armed, could not follow his enemy acroſs the rocks and precipices, which it was neceſſary to clear in order to reach him.

During the whole ſummer, the Turks diſplayed a great deal of perſeverance in fighting the Sphachiots; but being afterwards ſurpriſed at a reſiſtance which they did not expect, diſappointed in their hopes, frightened at the approaches of the cold, and tired of a painful and diſagreeable war, they loudly demanded to return home. The Sphachiots, on their ſide, found themſelves reduced to the laſt extremity: almoſt all their villages had been

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ſet on fire: a great number of their women and children had been carried off; they had loſt their flocks; their proviſions were exhauſted; and the earth which they could not cultivate, no longer afforded them any thing; ſo that they received with pleaſure the firſt propoſals that were made to them: they conſented to pay the annual tribute to which all the Greeks are ſubject; and, by theſe means, they were enabled to return to their habitations, and continue their barter with the maritime towns.

As the Turks, on this occaſion, had not been able to take with them horſes, and to cauſe themſelves to be followed by beaſts of burden, they had thought of loading three or four thouſand Greeks with their baggage; and in the different battles which they had to fight, they placed theſe Greeks in front of them, in order to make themſelves a rampart of their bodies.

This trait of barbarity and cowardice, which was related to us by a great number of Sphachiots, was what moſt affected theſe brave mountaineers, and what moſt contributed to reduce them to a deplorable condition. Frequently they durſt not fire on their enemies, for fear of hitting thoſe whom they conſidered as their brothers, ſtill more unfortunate than themſelves.

Although the Sphachiots pay their karatch with the greateſt repugnance, and are well diſpoſed to avail themſelves of the firſt favourable moment for attempting to ſhake off the yoke which hangs heavy on their necks, they took good care, during the laſt war of the Ruſſians againſt the Turks, not to yield to the ſolicitations that were made to them to take a part in the armaments which took place at TRIESTE, and which were commanded by Captain *LAMBRO*. They had, on this occaſion, formed a better judgment of events, than they had done on the other; and, indeed, they have had only to congratulate themſelves on this conduct; they would infallibly have loſt the few privileges which they have remaining.

LAMBRO

LAMBRO CANZIANI, born at THEBES of poor parents, gave himſelf up, from his infancy, to the profeſſion of a ſeaman. Early in life he was acquainted with all the coaſt of GREECE and of the PELOPONNESUS; he viſited almoſt all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO; he had ſeveral times occaſion to anchor in all the harbours and in all the bays of the BLACK SEA; and though he was but a common ſailor, he diſtinguiſhed himſelf in ſuch a manner by his intelligence, his courage, his boldneſs, and, above all, by his hatred towards the Turks, that he was admitted, while yet young, as an officer, into the ſervice of RUSSIA. In this quality, he took part in the ſiege of CORON, in 1770; he was in the ſame year at the engagement of TCHESME'. He ſignalized himſelf repeatedly on the BLACK SEA during the conqueſt of the CRIMEA by the Ruſſians; at laſt he was promoted, by the empreſs of RUSSIA, to the rank of colonel.

The war which took place in 1787 made this man, who was no leſs brave than enterpriſing, conceive the hope of acting a great part in his own country. He knew that the Greeks are always rouſed at the word Liberty: he knew them to be capable of the greateſt efforts for obtaining it: he flattered himſelf with releaſing them from the Ottoman yoke, if the court of RUSSIA would accede to his views.

But it appears that CATHERINE was not diſpoſed to ſecond projects which ſhe, perhaps, thought extravagant, and perhaps, too, ſhe was diſſuaded from it by the Ruſſian nobility, who, it is ſaid, conſider the conqueſt of European TURKEY, and the emancipation of the Greeks, as contrary to their intereſts. Be this as it may, LAMBRO, being neither able to obtain from the empreſs money nor ſhips, did not the leſs decide on fitting out at TRIESTE, at the expenſe of his friends, twelve ſmall veſſels, of which he took the command, and on board of which he obtained permiſſion to hoiſt the Ruſſian flag.

However

However feeble this armament was, it greatly perplexed the Turks; it electrified the Greeks of the MOREA and of EPIRUS: thoſe of the ARCHIPELAGO contented themſelves with ſending privately a few ſailors; thoſe of CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, and SALONICA, appeared to take no part in it; but all ſecretly furniſhed money.

Already was this fleet reinforced by important captures; already did LAMBRO conſider himſelf as the approaching deliverer of GREECE, when, all of a ſudden, the object of the war was changed, and it was terminated by an unexpected peace. In 1790 and 1791, it was much more important, to ſtop the progreſs of the French revolution, than to render the Greeks independent. The two courts of AUSTRIA and RUSSIA were, in ſome meaſure, obliged to adjourn the war againſt the Turks at the moment when the coaleſced powers would have parcelled out FRANCE, divided her forces, annihilated her fleets, and burnt or deſtroyed her arſenals.

Peace being concluded, LAMBRO received orders to lay aſide the Ruſſian flag, and even to lay up his ſquadron. He obeyed for a moment; but preſently he began again to cruiſe under the ſame flag, and once more infeſted the ARCHIPELAGO and the coaſt of the MOREA. The PORTE complained to the Ruſſian ambaſſador, who diſowned LAMBRO; ſo that there remained for the Turks no other courſe to take than to arm quickly, in order to ſtop the progreſs of a man whom they knew to be powerfully ſupported.

LAMBRO, who had then ſeveral frigates or corvettes, and a great number of other ſmall veſſels well equipped, and manned by determined men, reſiſted by his courage, or eſcaped by his ſkill, from the ſhips which the PORTE ſent againſt him. But he was afterwards attacked by forces ſo conſiderable, commanded by the Algerines and the Turks united, that he was entirely deſtroyed, and ran the greateſt riſk of loſing his life. On this occaſion, he

 performed

performed prodigies of valour; and though he had to fight ſeveral ſhips of the line, he diſputed the victory the whole day: he had ſeen almoſt the whole of his flotilla taken, ſunk, or burnt, while he was ſtill fighting. His ſhip was full of ſhot-holes, and threatened every moment to carry him to the bottom. Night fortunately came and put an end to this too unequal conflict, and alſo furniſhed him with the means of making his eſcape in boats with part of the heroes by whom he had been ſo nobly ſupported.

This reverſe did not damp the courage of LAMBRO: his genius and activity furniſhed him with freſh reſources. It was not long before he had a ſquadron almoſt as ſtrong as the former, with which he again made his appearance in the ARCHIPELAGO. It is certain that this extraordinary man would long have perplexed the PORTE, had he not had the inadvertence to diſoblige almoſt all the Greeks, by making an improper uſe of the credit and forces which he held from their generoſity; by imperiouſly requiring what was at firſt, on their part, only a voluntary offering; by tolerating the exceſſes in which the crews of his veſſels indulged themſelves; and if, in ſhort, in order to procure money, he had not, like a real pirate, taken the liberty of attacking and capturing indiſcriminately merchant-veſſels, which his intereſt even preſcribed to him to reſpect. A kerlanguiſch and a galley under his orders ventured, in May or June 1792, to attack and burn two French ſhips lying at anchor a league from NAPOLI DI ROMANIA, although there was in the ſeas of the LEVANT a diviſion of French frigates deſtined to protect our commerce.

In the mean time the PORTE, informed of the new armament of LAMBRO, and of the part which the Mainots were taking in it, had reinforced the ſquadron of the captain-pacha; and, at the ſame time, cauſed its troops of the MOREA to march, in order to attack the Mainots on the ſide of

MISITRA,

MISITRA, while the ſquadron ſhould act in the Gulfs of CORON and COLOKYTHIA, which was known to be LAMBRO's refuge.

At the time when M. DE CHOISEUL was informing M. DE ST. VALLIER, commander of the diviſion, of what was going on, M. DE VENEL, captain of the *MODESTE*, had arrived at CORON, in order to revenge the outrage committed on the French flag. Having learnt that LAMBRO was at anchor in PORTO QUAGLIO, he immediately made ſail for the purpoſe of forcing in his retreat this man, who was now no more than a dangerous pirate that it was neceſſary to haſten to deſtroy.

On the 17th of June, M. DE VENEL preſented himſelf off the harbour: he found it well fortified, and in a good ſtate of defence. In a ſmall cove, ſituated by the ſide of the harbour, was a cutter moored with a ſpring on her cable, and protected by two batteries erected on ſhore: it was by this part that M. DE VENEL reſolved to commence his attack. While he was preparing for battle, he ſaw arrive the ſquadron under the orders of HUSSEIN, who was come alſo with the intention of attacking LAMBRO's flotilla.

In the courſe of the day the French frigate had two engagements, during which ſhe greatly damaged the batteries, and in particular handled the cutter very roughly. Towards the evening, ſhe had a third action in concert with a Turkiſh frigate, and for the night, with a view of preventing any veſſel from making her eſcape either from the cove or the harbour, the captain-pacha ſent another frigate and three kerlanguiſchs, the command of which he gave to M. DE VENEL. On the 18th, the batteries of the cove ceaſed their fire, and the cutter was carried. On the ſame day, the French frigate, accompanied by two Turkiſh frigates and three kerlanguiſchs, went to attack PORTO QUAGLIO. LAMRRO's flotilla conſiſted of eleven veſſels of different ſizes. The engagement laſted all the reſt of the day. It was remarked, that

the whole of the enemy's fire was directed againſt the *Modeste*. Lambro was perſuaded, no doubt, that if he could cripple her, it would have been eaſy for him to eſcape from the forces of the pacha.

At night-fall a council of war was held on board the flag-ſhip; and it was reſolved, agreeably to the opinion of M. Peyron, lieutenant of the *Modeste*, that the French frigate ſhould cruiſe, as ſhe had done on the preceding nights, with the two Turkiſh frigates and the three kerlanguiſchs, and that at day-light ſhe ſhould force the entrance of the harbour, accompanied by the whole ſquadron.

According to this plan, the attack was renewed on the 19th at day-break. The ſilence of the batteries and of the veſſels at firſt excited ſurpriſe; but it was ſoon diſcovered that all of them had been abandoned during the night. Lambro, and all the Greeks under his command, had made their eſcape among the Mainots, or, under favour of the night, had got off in their boats. The captain-pacha, delighted that he had been ſo ſucceſsful in his firſt eſſay, ſwore eternal friendſhip to the French, promiſed diſtinguiſhed protection to her ſeamen, thanked M. de Venel, diſtributed ſome money and ſome refreſhments to the crew of the *Modeste*, took poſſeſſion of the deſerted flotilla, and haſtened to return to Constantinople, to receive the congratulations of the great and the benedictions of the people.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XIII.

Extent and population of the Iſland of Crete.—*Details reſpecting the productions of each province.—Plants of which the inhabitants make uſe.—Natural hiſtory.*

THE Iſland of CRETE is about ſixty leagues or thirty myriameters in length, from its moſt weſtern coaſt to Cape *SAMONIUM*, ſituated in the moſt eaſtern part. Its greateſt breadth, in paſſing by Mount IDA, is about thirteen leagues. It is but three from the head of the Gulf of MIRABEL to HIERA PETRA, and ſix or ſeven from RETIMO to the mouth of the rivulet called *MEGALO POTAMO:* but when a perſon travels on horſeback, the turnings which he is obliged to make, on account of the mountains, render the road every where as long again, independently of its being extremely rugged.

The north coaſt is much more ſinuous than the ſouth: it has a greater number of harbours and roadſteads: here are to be found excellent anchorages, while the ſouth coaſt affords but a few places where a ſhip can caſt anchor in ſafety.

The rivers are, in a manner, nothing more than torrents ſwelled in winter by the rains, and in the ſpring by the melting of the ſnow: few among them preſerve all the year a part of their waters; but there are a tolerably great number of ſprings, of which the inhabitants make uſe for the watering of the lands. True it is that the greater part of theſe ſprings iſſue ſo cloſe to the ſea-ſhore, that it is almoſt impoſſible to employ them for that purpoſe.

According to the regiſters of the collector of the karatch, the population of the Greeks muſt be eſtimated at one hundred and twenty thouſand: there are reckoned about twenty thouſand men paying that tax. If we next conſider the great number of janizaries regiſtered in the towns, and if we pay attention that ſome villages are almoſt entirely peopled by Turks, or partly by Turks and partly by Greeks, we ſhall be inclined to believe that there are in the iſland nearly as many of the one as of the other, and that the total amount of the population is two hundred and forty thouſand inhabitants.

If we may credit the merchants who have grown gray in their counting-houſes, and who have directed an obſerving eye to their commerce, the number of the Greeks is inſenſibly diminiſhing from the effect of ſervitude, from emigrations, from the diſcouragement to which a cultivator is ſubject, and from the continual exactions which they experience. Wretchedneſs occaſions the death of ſome from inanition in particular; it kills a great many children; it oppoſes the union of the two ſexes. We may preſume, that if the PORTE do not change its ſyſtem in regard to the non-Muſſulmans, if it do not quickly decide on protecting them againſt its agents, the population of the Greeks will diſappear from the places occupied by the Turks, or the latter will be driven from the European continent on the firſt opportunity that ſhall preſent itſelf.

We have ſaid that the iſland was divided into three governments, ſubdivided into diſtricts or provinces: we ſhall take a look at the productions of each of them in particular.

In the moſt weſtern part, lie KISSAMOS to the north, and SELINO to the ſouth, which divide into two portions the ground compriſed between that ſpace. KISSAMOS, whoſe name has been preſerved till our time without alteration, was formerly the harbour of APTERA: at this day it is a ſmall

town, which would be of ſome importance, had not the pachas prohibited the exportation of the commodities of the iſland, except from the chief place of their government.

This province is one of the beſt cultivated and the moſt productive of the iſland: it furniſhes a tolerably large quantity of oil and wine; it produces honey, wax, and ſilk: here very little barley and wheat are gathered. The greater part of its mountains are wooded: here are found ſcattered a great many common and holm oaks, the acorns of which allow the Greeks to breed a ſufficiently large number of hogs. Here are alſo ſeen a great many carob-trees, whoſe fruits are carried to CANEA. Above the village of *NOMALO*, ſituated on the firſt link of the chain of the WHITE MOUNTAINS, is a ſomewhat conſiderable foreſt of oaks, whence is drawn the greater part of the wood and charcoal that is conſumed at CANEA.

In this province, the vine deſerves ſome attention: it is cut ſo near the root, that there remains no apparent ſhoot; which does not prevent it from ſending forth ſeveral vigorous branches, and from yielding a tolerably great quantity of grapes. Thoſe who are the beſt cultivators, give but one hoeing to their vines, and never put to them any manure. They prefer employing it on lands intended for the reception of grain, or of ſome kitchen-garden plants.

When they wiſh to plant a vine, the inhabitants of KISSAMOS content themſelves with ſticking in the ground, to the depth of two feet, a pointed iron, and with ſetting their plant in the hole, at the ſame time pricking the earth all round by means of the ſame iron. This method is undoubtedly defective; but it ſaves the expenſes of plantations; and in a country where it is dangerous for a man to be richer than his neighbour, induſtry is always paralyzed. Beſides, why ſhould the Greek endeavour, in the country-places, to

to double the produce of his field? He is ſatisfied if he have bread for his family: two or three caſks of wine are ſufficient for him; if he had five or ſix, it would be remarked: the ſoubachi would not want pretexts for informing againſt him, and the aga means for ſtripping him.

The wine of KISSAMOS is a claret, ſpirituous, and of a tolerably good quality: as it is not an article of commerce, becauſe the carriage to CANEA would be too expenſive, the Greeks and Muſſulmans make of it a rather great conſumption. The former convert a part of it into brandy for their winter ſtock, becauſe it keeps better, and takes up leſs room than wine.

The grapes are gathered in the beginning of Fructidor: at this period they have acquired their full maturity. They are carried to the preſs conſtructed in maſonry in the middle of the vineyard: there, they are heaped up, and left eight or ten days expoſed to the ſun. They are then trodden; and the unfermented wine is carried home, where it is poured into caſks. A fourth or a fifth part of water is generally added, and moſt of the inhabitants are in the habit of putting into the wine which they intend for the Turks, ſalt, plaſter, and even lime, in order to give it a tartneſs, which the latter are fond of, and hold in requeſt.

On the Gulf of KISSAMOS is a quarry of beautiful gypſum, which the Cretans work ill. The maſons of the country are acquainted with no other manner of converting it into plaſter, than by putting it pounded, to the thickneſs of five or ſix inches, into the baker's oven.

The fort of GRABUSA, ſituated on a ſteep iſlet, at the moſt weſtern and northern part of CRETE, is compriſed in the diſtrict of KISSAMOS. The Turks not being able to make themſelves maſters of this fort at the beginning of the laſt century, reſolved to corrupt the commander, and the latter was immoral

immoral enough to hold out his hand to the gold that was offered to him, and cowardly enough to deliver up a place intruſted to him by the republic of VENICE. The junction of three ſmall iſlands and an advanced cape forms a natural harbour, in which the largeſt ſhips anchor in ſafety. The population of the Turks of KISSAMOS is eſtimated at upwards of a third of the inhabitants.

The province which lies to the ſouth of that of KISSAMOS, has taken its name of SELINO, a ſmall town built on the ſouth coaſt of the iſland, in the ſituation formerly occupied by *LISSA*, or *LISSUS*, a place of little importance, of which PTOLEMY makes mention. It is very fertile, although it is almoſt entirely mountainous. It furniſhes a little ſilk, honey, wax, and a tolerably large quantity of fruits, ſuch as cherries, apricots, peaches, pears, and oranges. This is the only province where the cheſnut-tree is cultivated: that tree is there abundant, and thrives exceedingly well on the ſchiſtoſe hills and mountains of this country. The cheſnuts are carried to CANEA, RETIMO, and CANDIA. In thoſe towns they are eaten from the middle of Vendémiaire to the end of the ſpring. Every year a rather large quantity is exported to SYRIA.

Oil is, however, the principal commodity of SELINO: it is reckoned better in this province, than in all the reſt of the iſland. The merchants of CANEA generally eſtabliſh their ſpeculations on the quantity and the quality of the oils of SELINO.

Wine, wheat, and barley, are in no great plenty. The population of the Turks is eſtimated at a fourth or a fifth of the inhabitants.

After theſe two provinces come CIDONIA to the north, and SPHACHIA to the ſouth: the latter extends to the eaſt much more than the former; it

is

In the environs of CANEA, the population of the Turks is as numerous as that of the Greeks.

Three leagues from this town begins the province of *APOCORONA*, which extends to the eaſt as far as ARMIRO, and to the ſouth as far as the mountains of SPHACHIA. It preſents no particular culture: it is mountainous, and furniſhes in abundance oil, a ſmall quantity of barley and wheat, and very little wine: it is more peopled by Greeks than by Turks.

The province of RETIMO, which comes next, is one of the beſt cultivated and moſt productive of the iſland: it furniſhes a great deal of oil, a little barley and wheat, and a tolerably large quantity of wine. The riſing grounds and hills which ſkirt the ſhore of ARMIRO, are almoſt all covered with vines. On the neareſt mountains which lie to the ſouth, is to be remarked a foreſt of common and holm oaks, maples, and carob-trees, into which the inhabitants of RETIMO come to cut the wood that they ſtand in need of.

To the ſouth of RETIMO are the two provinces of *AÏON-VASSALI* and *AMARI*, the only ones that are compriſed in this pachalik: they furniſh wheat, barley, oil, and ſome fruits. The former, ſituated to the north-weſt of the other, furniſhes, beſides, excellent cheeſe, which is confounded, in trade, with that of SPHACHIA. The Greeks are more numerous than the Turks in the provinces of AÏON-VASSALI and AMARI.

The Sphachiots, as we have ſaid, inhabit the high mountains which extend from eaſt to weſt, from the province of SELINO as far as that of AMARI: they are conſidered as being compriſed in the pachalik of CANDIA, though the interior police and adminiſtration belong to themſelves. Independently of a great number of villages which are on theſe mountains, ſome are re-

marked towards the ſouth coaſt, and among others *Sphachia*, their chief place, where is a ſmall harbour that contains ſeven or eight large boats, of which the Sphachiots make uſe for their trade, and ſometimes too for the piracies which they practiſe in imitation of their anceſtors.

The Malteſe, in their excurſions, formerly frequented the harbour of Sphachia. They were well received there by the inhabitants, who were eager to furniſh them with proviſions and all the aſſiſtance which they wanted.

Sphachia produces ſcarcely any oil; but, to make the inhabitants amends, here are gathered a little wheat and a pretty conſiderable quantity of barley: it alſo furniſhes honey and wax. Its principal production conſiſts in little cheeſes made with ewe's milk, which are exported to Constantinople.

During the winter, the Sphachiots are in the habit of ſending their flocks towards the ſea-ſide, becauſe in that mild and rainy ſeaſon graſs is there in plenty; but, on the firſt warm weather in ſummer, they drive them back to browſe at home on the rich paſtures which the milder temperature and the gradual melting of the ſnow always maintain in a ſtate of verdure.

The wine which theſe Greeks make on the firſt link of the chain of their mountains, would be ſufficient for the wants of the whole year with a little economy; but they generally drink with ſo much intemperance during the three or four months which ſucceed that of the vintage, that they are obliged to drink pure water the remainder of the year. Few among them are prudent enough, it is ſaid, to uſe with ſobriety a liquor as wholeſome, when it is taken in moderation, as it is prejudicial when the doſe is too powerful.

The

The firſt province that is met with in the north part of the iſland, after quitting the territory of RETIMO, is called *NILO-POTAMO:* it extends to the ſouth-eaſt even beyond Mount IDA, and compriſes the diſtricts of *ARLO-POTAMO*, *LAMBIS*, *ARCADI*, and *RISO-CASTRO*. It yields wheat, barley, ſilk, flax, cotton, and ſome fruits: here is produced a rather large quantity of oil, though the greater part of the olive-trees neither receive manure nor hoeing, and are in ſome meaſure abandoned.

This province was formerly comprehended in the pachalik of RETIMO; but, about fifty years ago, a pacha of CANDIA, conſidering it as an excellent mine to be worked, warmly ſolicited the PORTE, and obtained, that it ſhould be annexed to his pachalik. This meaſure greatly contributed to diminiſh the number of the inhabitants, as well as the produce of the lands; for, independently of the exactions which were made on thoſe who were in eaſy circumſtances, the obligation to which the pacha ſubjects all the cultivators to carry their oils to CANDIA, where leſs is paid for them than at RETIMO, and the conſiderable increaſe of the expenſes reſulting from a greater diſtance and worſe roads, acroſs mountains which it is neceſſary to paſs—every thing has thrown the inhabitants into a ſort of diſcouragement of which the PORTE is ignorant, and to which the pacha has no intention of putting a ſtop. Satisfied with increaſing the produce of the cuſtoms, the latter gives himſelf little concern whether the inhabitants have to lament the meaſures which the PORTE has taken in regard to them.

In the territory of CANDIA are gathered very little cotton, a great deal of wheat and barley, and a conſiderable quantity of raiſins. Several cargoes of theſe laſt are ſhipped for SYRIA and EGYPT. The Muſſulmans of thoſe countries make them the principal ingredient in their ſherbets: the Chriſtians are in the habit of putting them into a certain quantity of water, and of leaving them to ferment for ten, twelve, or fifteen days, according to the

temperature of the air. They afterwards diſtil them, and obtain from them a very agreeable brandy. The preparation of theſe raiſins conſiſts in gathering them, when they are very ripe, and ſpreading them on the ground, expoſing them for ſeveral days to a burning ſun. They are afterwards ſtoned, and then packed up for carriage.

There are ſcarcely any olive-trees in the territory of CANDIA, although the ſoil is very fit for the culture of that tree. The Turks there are as numerous as the Greeks.

The Iſland of DIA, or of STANDIA, is ſituated three leagues to the north-eaſt by eaſt of CANDIA. It is about four miles long by two broad: its circumference is irregular: in its ſouth part, are three natural harbours, where ſhips of burden, bound to CANDIA, caſt anchor and unload a part of their cargo, becauſe the harbour of that town is not deep enough to receive them when they are fully laden. On their departure, they in like manner go and wait at DIA till boats bring them wherewith to complete their lading.

A ſhip of the line which might be driven by a too violent northerly wind towards CRETE, and which could not gain the Gulf of SUDA, or SPINA-LONGA, would find an aſylum at DIA. The middle harbour, called *PORTO DELLA MADONA*, is the beſt of the three: a veſſel may caſt anchor there in from ſix or eight fathoms water up to a conſiderable depth.

On doubling the eaſt point, you meet with a fourth harbour, by no means ſafe, rather ſhallow, and open to the eaſt wind, but ſheltered from the ſouth, weſt, and north-weſt. A merchant-veſſel, caught in a gale of wind, might in like manner here take refuge.

This

This iſland is lofty, rugged, and entirely calcareous: it neither is inhabited nor cultivated. The rock is every where naked, except towards the ſummit, where is perceived a ſoil which would be fit for the culture of the vine and the olive-tree. It appears that there were anciently in this ſpot ſome habitations, to judge from the heaps of ſtones and bricks to be found here. In various places are met with a whitiſh marble, which has never been worked, and ſome veins, of ſeveral feet in thickneſs, of ſtreaked alabaſter, which is thought to be of the greateſt beauty.

On this iſland are a conſiderable quantity of rabbits: there are alſo ſome wild goats, which it is difficult to ſee and to ſhoot at, becauſe they keep in places inacceſſible to man. We here ſaw, beſides, ſeveral cats of different colours, which we preſumed to have belonged to veſſels caſt away.

The province of *Messara*, which lies to the ſouth of that of Candia, is the moſt fertile and the moſt agreeable of the iſland: it has, among others, a very beautiful plain ſix leagues in extent, in which are gathered in abundance wheat, barley, flax, cotton, and a variety of fruits. It is croſſed by a ſmall river at this day called *Malognithi*, and formerly known by the name of *Lethe*. It paſſes by the ſide of the ruins of *Gortyna*, and empties itſelf into the ſea facing the Paximadi Iſlands.

When the Romans had conquered the iſlands, and humbled the pride of Cnossus, Gortyna became the moſt conſiderable and the moſt beautiful city of Crete. It had two harbours to the ſouth, one of which named *Metallum*, ſituated oppoſite to two iſlets, is to be found again in the word *Metala*, which this place ſtill bears. The other, called Lebena, was five or ſix leagues more to the eaſtward.

Three

Three leagues to the north of theſe ruins, is ſeen the famous labyrinth, which might be taken for an old quarry of ſoft, calcareous ſtone, or for a place of habitation, capable of containing a whole colony, had not ancient authors ſaid that it was conſtructed by DÆDALUS, on the model of the labyrinth of EGYPT, and that it ſerved as a place of confinement for the Minotaur.

The wheat of MESSARA is one of the beſt of TURKEY: it yields a great deal of flour, and makes an excellent bread. Cultivators convey it on the back of their aſſes to CANDIA, to RETIMO, and even to CANEA; and, however plentiful the harveſt may be, they never keep any for themſelves. As well as the other cultivators of the iſland, they live all the year on a very coarſe barley-bread. The pure wheat is reſerved for the agas and for the rich inhabitants of the towns.

This province is juſtly reckoned the granary of CRETE. All the lands are in culture, and they commonly produce fifteen or twenty for one; while elſewhere the cultivator is well ſatisfied if he obtain ſix or eight times the ſeed which he has intruſted to the beſt grounds: true it is that their culture is much neglected, and that they ſeldom receive manure. The Turks here are more numerous than the Greeks.

The province of MIRABEL, which lies to the eaſt of that of CANDIA, is populous, fertile, and abundant in oil, grain, and fruit. Formerly the inhabitants ſaw ſeveral French veſſels come to the road of MIRABEL and the harbour of SPINA-LONGA, in order to load with oil, which kept up its price, and diffuſed among them a degree of comfort which they no longer enjoy, ſince they have been forced to carry it, at a great expenſe, to CANDIA, and to ſell it at a low price to the Turkiſh proprietors of the ſoap-houſes eſtabliſhed in that town.

Cultivators, diſcouraged by this inconſiderate order, neglect from day to day their olive-trees, and make, beſides, a greater conſumption of oil and olives than they did before. They ſalt a large quantity of this fruit, which they make the principal article of their ſubſiſtence. They alſo eat a great many wild herbs as a ſalad, or fried with oil; and thus it is that the pacha of CANDIA, who hoped to increaſe the produce of the cuſtoms, by preventing the fraud which might have been committed far from his ſight, has, on the contrary, ſeen that produce imperceptibly diminiſh, becauſe they no longer export from this province one half of the oils which were thence exported formerly.

The road of MIRABEL faces the eaſt, and affords to veſſels, which may put in there, a tolerably ſafe anchorage. It is ſheltered and defended by two ſmall iſlands ſituated in front. The town has greatly diminiſhed ſince commerce has taken another direction. Here are, nevertheleſs, ſtill reckoned fifteen hundred inhabitants, the greater part Greeks and cultivators.

SPINA-LONGA, which lies a few leagues more to the north, is one of the beſt harbours of the iſland. It is formed by a peninſula which ſecures it from the eaſterly winds. Its entrance faces the north north-eaſt; but it is ſheltered and protected by an iſlet on which the Venetians had built a fortreſs ſimilar to that of SUDA. For a long time the Turks made fruitleſs attempts to render themſelves maſters of this fortreſs: it was not till the beginning of the laſt century that the Venetians permitted them to take poſſeſſion of it.

The province of *HIERA-PETRA*, or *GERA PETRA*, is to the ſouth of that of MIRABEL: like the latter, it produces oil, grain, various fruits, honey, wax, flax, &c.; but it ſuffers equally from the prohibition which the pacha has iſſued of ſelling commodities any where but at CANDIA. French veſſels came

came formerly to load with oil in the road of HIERA-PETRA: in order to ſell that commodity, the inhabitants are at this day obliged to make by land a trip which requires three or four days' journey.

The town, known in ancient times under the names of *CYRBA*, *CAMYRUS*, and *HIERA PYTNA*, is at the preſent hour no more than a village, whoſe population is daily diminiſhing. Its roadſtead is too much expoſed to the ſoutherly winds, and particularly to the *ſirocco*, to be frequented. The European veſſels which came thither formerly, haſtened to take in their cargo and to get away.

The province of *SETTIA* occupies all the eaſtern part of the iſland: it is the moſt extenſive, but the leaſt peopled, and the leaſt productive, though it is, in a great meaſure, ſuſceptible of culture, and though moſt of its lands are of the greateſt fertility. But the remoteneſs from the capital, the want of harbours, the inconſiderate injuſtice of the agas—every thing concurs to render the inhabitants of this part of the iſland more indolent than the others. Contented with gathering corn and fruit for their ſubſiſtence, oil for paying their taxes, and procuring themſelves a few clothes, and the utenſils neceſſary for their family, they endeavour not to ſnatch from the earth a ſurplus of productions, with which they would be embarraſſed, or of which their agas would not fail to take poſſeſſion.

The town is ſituated on a flat ſhore, which a cape not much advanced, and three iſlets placed at upwards of a league's diſtance, protect but feebly from the north and north-eaſt winds. It was tolerably well fortified, and ſufficiently peopled, when the Venetians were maſters of the iſland: they had there conſtructed a mole, in order to ſhelter the veſſels which came thither to load with the productions of the province, or which brought thoſe claimed by

by the wants of the inhabitants. At SETTIA are at this day ſeen none but ſmall boats: the population has diminiſhed conſiderably, and the fortifications are not kept in the leaſt order.

Mount DICTÆ occupies in this province an extent ſomewhat conſiderable, in a direction from eaſt to weſt. Although it is one of the moſt elevated points of the iſland next to Mount IDA and the WHITE MOUNTAINS, its top is not covered with ſnow: it is only more cool and more moiſt than the mountains in the environs of the ſea, and would be very well calculated for the feeding of a great number of flocks.

The carob-tree, a tree of moderate ſize which grows without culture all over the iſland, and particularly delights in ſtony grounds and in the clefts of rocks, is here more abundant than any where elſe: it has an agreeable port, a foliage always green, flowers very ſmall, without corollas; brown fruits, flattened in the form of pods, and a wood very hard, veined, of a beautiful deep red, very fit for cabinet and inlaid work; but what depreciates this wood, is that it is very ſubject to rot when the tree grows old: its blea, beſides, is too conſiderable, too tender, and of a whitiſh colour.

The fruits of the carob-tree are conveyed to CONSTANTINOPLE, into SYRIA, and into EGYPT: they ſerve for food to the poor and to children; the latter are very fond of chewing the ſweet and luſcious pulp which they contain. Mixed with liquorice-root, raiſins, and other different fruits, it ſerves for compoſing the ſherbets of which the Muſſulmans make a daily uſe.

Among the great number of wild or cultivated plants on which the inhabitants of CRETE ſubſiſt, we ſhall remark:

The leaves of kidney-beans, boiled and fried with olive-oil.

Among the cultivated plants, we remarked the briſtly-leaved corchorus, or common Jew's mallow*, which we again ſaw in ſtill greater abundance in EGYPT. Its leaves are eaten with pleaſure, during the whole ſummer, as a ragout or ſimply boiled, ſqueezed, and ſeaſoned with olive-oil. Care is taken to ſow the ſeeds from the end of the winter to the end of the ſpring, in watered places. The plant is annual, branchy, and riſes to the height of two feet.

Ketmia, or *bamia*†, known in the ANTILLES under the name of *gombeau*, is alſo cultivated, not only in CRETE, but throughout the LEVANT. Its fruit, from three to four inches long, is gathered from the end of Prairial to Fructidor, and eaten as a ragout alone, with different ſeaſoning, and more frequently mixed with meat: it is inſipid, viſcous, and by no means difficult of digeſtion. The ſeeds are ſown towards the end of the winter in watered places. This annual plant would thrive very well in the South of FRANCE.

To this liſt we might add the greater part of the kitchen-garden plants cultivated in EUROPE.

It is to be regretted that the potatoe is not known to the inhabitants of GREECE; it would certainly grow under the ſhade of the cheſnut-tree of SELINO, on the WHITE MOUNTAINS, on Mount IDA, on Mount DICTÆ, and on all the elevated and cool places of the iſland. It would contribute to render independent the Sphachiots, whom the want of ſubſiſtence frequently calls to the maritime towns of the north coaſt: it would ſave the corn which, in general, runs ſhort in this country: it would afford to all the Greeks a wholeſome food which would not excite the envy of the greedy

* *Corchorus olitorius*. LINN.—Corète potagère, LAMARCK. *Encyclop.*

† *Hibiſcus eſculentus*. LINN.—Ketmie comeſtible, LAMARCK. *Encyclop.*

which fatten in the fields on ſeeds and inſects that are there to be found. The turkey-cock, in particular, is remarkable for its ſize, the delicacy of its fleſh, and the low price at which it is obtained: for a piaſtre, or about two livres (20d. ſterling). a turkey may be purchaſed, weighing from twelve to fifteen pounds, and for one livre a bird of the ſame ſpecies, that weighs ſeven or eight. Beef is ſcarce, and the ox is little uſed but in country labour.

There are few countries in the LEVANT which afford a greater variety of intereſting vegetables than the Iſland of CRETE. The botaniſt may hope to reap there, in all ſeaſons, a harveſt more or leſs abundant. In fact, when the heat has parched up the earth, and burnt the greater part of the plants in the plains and on the hills in the vicinity of the ſea, then DICTÆ, IDA, and SPHACHIA, which are ſituated in a temperature more mild and more moiſt, are covered with flowers of every ſpecies.

If the botaniſt quit theſe elevated places in the firſt rains of autumn, he is ſurpriſed to find under his feet a yellow-flowered ranunculus, tolerably fragrant, worthy of figuring in the gardens of floriſts; a ſweet-ſmelling, white narciſſus; ſeveral hyacinths, two ſpecies of ſaffron, a crocus, a day-lily, &c. Preſently he ſees the mandrake, the virtues of which empirics have extolled, but of which the wiſe phyſician is miſtruſtful as a venomous plant. The arboreſcent lucern flowers before the end of autumn. In Nivôſe, Pluviôſe, and Ventôſe, all the riſing grounds are covered with ranunculuſes, anemones, ixias, crocuſes, iriſes, and a great number of cruciform plants; to which ſucceed rapidly orchiſes, labiatæ, rock-roſes, ſome umbellatæ, and moſt of the leguminous plants. In the middle of ſummer are found ſome late plants, and a great number of buſhes and ſhrubs, ſuch as ſavories, thymes, ſtachys, oleanders, myrtles, &c. and towards the end of the ſummer, ſome ſyngeneſia, among which is to be remarked the gummy-rooted atractylis.

The

diſplays within, on the right ſide, two ſmall folds not very apparent. The neck is free and quadrangular. The laſt volutes of the ſpire are cut as in the decollated bulimus *.

4. The *blunt* bulimus (*fig.* 2. *a. b.*) has an oval mouth, ſlightly bidentated, and reddiſh within. Each ſpire has a great number of very elevated lines. The extremity is always truncated when the ſhell has attained its full ſize †.

5. The *taper* bulimus (*fig.* 6. *a*, *b.*) is elongated, ſtriated, and formed of fifteen or ſixteen ſpires. The mouth is oval, a little oblong: it has within two folds on the ſide of the columella, more or leſs marked. The laſt ſpires are of a deep blackiſh blue ‡.

6. The *inflated* bulimus (*fig.* 3. *a*, *b.*) is not ſo long, and more inflated than the preceding; its ſtriæ are more apparent: thoſe of the laſt volute form wrinkles well marked. There are only twelve or thirteen volutes to its ſpire. The mouth is oval, and ſlightly bidentated: the extremity appears as if obſtructed by ſome acceſſary folds ‖.

Lizards do not commonly inſpire as much fright as ſerpents: not one is known to be venomous; and nevertheleſs, in ſeveral places, we find an opinion eſtabliſhed that ſome of theſe reptiles are extremely dangerous. The

* Bulimus torticollis *ſiniſter, parvulus, dilute rubiginoſus, valdè truncatus, ſubcylindricus; collo libero, anguſtato, ſubquadrato; apertura ſubrotunda.*

† Bulimus retuſus *ſiniſter, parvulus decollatus, fuſiformi-cylindraceus, totus conſpicue plicato-ſtriatus, obſolete albeus; apertura ovali, introrſum obſcurè biplicata, rufidula.*

‡ Bulimus teres *ſiniſter, parvulus, anguſtè fuſiformis, obſolete ſtriolatus, cum vertice atrato albidus; anfractibus planiſſimis; apertura ovato-oblonga, obſcurè bidentata.*

‖ Bulimus inflatus *ſiniſter, parvulus, ventricoſo fuſiformis, cum vertice atrato lacteus; leviter ſtriolatus; apertura ovali, obſcurè bidentata, alba.*

firſt

mixed with gray, yellowiſh, and brown; the head and the back covered with ſcales, ſimple or tubercled, and pointed. The ſcales of the feet are more turned up, and more pointed, than thoſe of the back. The tail is verticillated, and covered with prickly ſcales. This lizard acquires ten or twelve inches in length. It lives on inſects, and does no miſchief. It is ſeen to ſeek the ſun in ſummer: in winter it keeps in holes, and there paſſes that ſeaſon in a ſort of torpor.

Induſtry is almoſt null in the Greek villages ſubject to the agas. It is not without trembling that the inhabitants there make a few coarſe cloths, and the moſt ſimple implements of huſbandry. The women are ſcarcely ever employed but in mending the old rags which they and their huſbands wear as long as they can. When they dreſs themſelves in new clothes, which happens but ſeldom, they avoid ſhowy colours and ſtuffs of a certain price. They know that their ſuit would be taken away from them by the ſoubachi, or by ſome other Turk, and would even expoſe them to outrages.

This is not the caſe in SPHACHIA. The Greek of thoſe mountains is at the ſame time ſhepherd, agriculturiſt, and artiſan. He turns to a pretty good account the lands which he poſſeſſes; he breeds, with ſufficient intelligence and ſucceſs, a great number of cattle; he manufactures with tolerable ſkill the cloths with which he clothes himſelf, the utenſils of which he makes uſe, and the implements which he employs. But the Sphachiot has preſerved, as we have ſaid before, the energy of the independent man, and the activity of him who enjoys without moleſtation the fruit of his labour.

The Turkiſh villages preſent not ſo much wretchedneſs as thoſe belonging to the Greeks, becauſe the cultivator is much more ſure of his property, and may without fear improve it by every means in his power. Independently of the taxes which he pays, being, in general, leſs burdenſome; independently of his being exempt from perſonal impoſt, it ſeldom happens that too revolting an injuſtice is committed in regard to him, becauſe the inhabitants are ever ready to riſe and defend him among them who ſhould be oppreſſed.

Notwithſtanding ſo many advantages, neither agriculture nor induſtry are in vigour among them. Being almoſt all enrolled among the janizaries, they depend on the pay which they have to receive; they alſo depend on the ex-

danger the Turks of this iſland would not fail to ſeize, indiſcriminately, all the Greeks who might be in a condition to carry arms, and to ſacrifice them to their own ſafety, unleſs that power ſhould have taken beforehand the precaution of tranſmitting arms ſecretly, and of ſcreening, by that means, theſe unfortunate beings from the murderous ſword of their oppreſſors.

The Turks are, in general, handſomer than the Europeans. Their ſtature is not taller; but their features are more regular; their countenance is commonly more agreeable, and more expreſſive. Do they owe this advantage to their inactive life, to the climate which they inhabit, to the aliments which they uſe, to the comfort which they almoſt all enjoy, or muſt we attribute the cauſe of it to thoſe ſlaves, generally rather handſome, who have brought them into the world? What would induce us to believe that the more general beauty of the women, in TURKEY, contributes greatly to the beauty of the men, is that the Turks of CRETE, who, ſince they have occupied the iſland, are in the habit of marrying, in the *kapin* manner, the handſomeſt Greek girls of the country, are ſtill handſomer than thoſe of the reſt of TURKEY.

They are alſo more intelligent: to ſee them and hear them, one would imagine that they have received from their mothers a few ſparks of that brilliant wit, of that ſhrewd ſagacity, with which the Greeks are endowed, and which they have preſerved, even in ſlavery.

Theſe Turks are the only ones in the empire, who, notwithſtanding the prejudices of their nation, have ventured to ſubmit to a ſort of quarantine all ſtrangers who come from a country infeſted with the plague. They even carry precaution ſo far as to prohibit their ports to veſſels that have on board ſick ſuſpected to have that diſorder, unleſs they bring proviſions of which the iſland ſtands in great need; and in that caſe they, by every known means, hinder

hinder the plague from being introduced among them. But as they cannot prevent the acceſs of a Turkiſh ſhip of war, nor ſubject her to the ſalutary regulations of the iſland, the precautions which they take with reſpect to others, are very often inſufficient. In fact, the galiondgis, from whatever country they come, and whatever may be their ſtate of health, are eager to get on ſhore, land their effects, and communicate with the inhabitants of the town and country. Thus it was that a kerlanguiſch belonging to the PORTE, arrived from CANEA, in the year IV. (1796), brought thither a plague of the moſt contagious and moſt deſtructive nature, which in leſs than two years viſited the whole iſland, and carried off upwards of one-fourth of the inhabitants. It had not yet ceaſed when we left CONSTANTINOPLE, in the year VI. (1798), although it had, for ſeveral months paſt, loſt much of its malignity.

Another law, leſs wiſe no doubt, which reſults from the too ſmall quantity of corn that the iſland furniſhes, ſubjects veſſels laden with grain and other proviſions, which happen to put into one of its harbours, to ſell their cargo before they get under ſail again. And were the iſland provided with a ſufficient abundance of proviſions to be ſold at a very low price, the captain could not obtain permiſſion to carry his commodity elſewhere without making a preſent to the pacha, to the cuſtom-houſe officer, and to the corps of janizaries.

In the principal towns, it is a pleaſure to ſee public granaries which were probably conſtructed in the time of the Venetians. Theſe conſiſt of large ſquare pits in maſonry, coated with a cement capable of ſecuring from humidity the grain contained in them. The opening is narrow, and carefully cloſed. Corn keeps very well in theſe pits, provided they are not too damp. They are very common in ITALY, and throughout the EAST: their form is more frequently oval, and very much ſwelled in the middle. We might have

recourſe

recourſe to them with the ſame advantage in FRANCE, and, as occaſion required, make uſe of thoſe vats in maſonry which the inhabitants are in the habit of conſtructing in moſt of the wine-countries.

The corn which is gathered in CRETE not being ſufficient for the conſumption of the inhabitants, there comes every year a tolerably large quantity from VOLO, from SALONICA, from the MOREA, from SYRIA, and ſometimes from EGYPT.

Wine is made only in a few diſtricts of the iſland: in ſome others, the inhabitants prefer carrying their grapes to the town, or drying them for trade. Thoſe who have no wine diſpenſe with it, and drink water: it ſeldom happens that any is brought to them from the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

The mulberry-tree vegetates very well in CRETE. Silk-worms thrive there wonderfully, and, nevertheleſs, that tree is ſcarce. Every year is brought from SYRIA the ſilk neceſſary for the manufacture of a few ſtrings and a few ribands, which are exported to CONSTANTINOPLE. Some cloths in ſilk and cotton, and in ſilk and flax, are alſo manufactured: the latter ſerve for making ſhirts and ſhifts, and are conſumed in the country.

Although flax is tolerably plentiful, yet it does not ſuffice for the wants of the inhabitants: they draw a great deal from EGYPT.

Cotton is little cultivated; that which is conſumed in this iſland, comes from SMYRNA and the environs of EPHESUS.

There arrive alſo from this latter place buffalo-hides and ox-hides, and coarſe ſheep-ſkins, for the uſe of the mountaineers, who make of them a ſort of boot which reaches to the knee.

Seſamum

Seſamum is cultivated in a ſmall quantity: in the towns, its ſeed is mixed with bread, in order to give the latter more flavour. Here the inhabitants are not in the habit of extracting oil from it, as is practiſed in ſome iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in ſome diſtricts of SYRIA, and in a good part of PERSIA and INDIA.

The only articles of exportation from the Iſland of CRETE, are oil, ſoap, wax, honey, cheeſe, raiſins, almonds, walnuts, cheſnuts, ST. JOHN'S bread, linſeed, and liquorice-root.

The oil that the iſland can furniſh in a good ſeaſon is eſtimated at two hundred thouſand milleroles*. Of this the French draw nearly one-fourth: the Italians and Germans take off a ſmall quantity: the people of the country make a great conſumption of it for their food. All the reſt is conſumed by the ſoap-houſes.

Next to oil, ſoap is one of the moſt important articles of exportation. It paſſes to TUNIS, to CONSTANTINOPLE, and into all the towns of the LEVANT. It is not ſo good as that of MARSEILLES for waſhing and cleaning linen; but, nevertheleſs, the Turks prefer it, becauſe it is cheaper, and is, beſides, almoſt as good as ours for waſhing their body, ſhaving their head, and for the other uſes to which they apply it.

At CANDIA, there are twenty-five ſoap-houſes, which employ the greater part of the oils of the province, and of thoſe ſituated in the eaſt part of the iſland. There were formerly ſeveral French houſes in that town, which exported to MARSEILLES part of the oils which were gathered in the environs. Cargoes of it were alſo ſhipped at SPINA-LONGA, MIRABEL, SETTIA, and

* A meaſure of MARSEILLES, which is equal to ſixty-ſix *pintes*, PARIS meaſure.

GERA-

GERA-PETRA; but the merchants have been obliged, by degrees, to abandon their eſtabliſhments, becauſe the Turks, who wiſhed to make themſelves maſters of all the oils of theſe countries for their ſoap-houſes, frequently raiſed the populace againſt them, and put their life in danger. It may be expected that one day the ſame thing will happen at CANEA. The French houſes there maintain themſelves only becauſe the preſent cuſtom-houſe officer is a man of weight, and finds a greater profit in the extraction of the oil made by the Europeans, than in that of the ſoap made by the Turks; for the Europeans pay in CRETE three per cent. of the value of merchandiſe, while the Turks there pay only two and a half. The Greeks, the Jews, and the Armenians, pay five per cent.

Although oils are in great abundance in the environs of RETIMO, there are to the preſent day no more than eight ſoap-houſes in that town, becauſe the French eſtabliſhed at CANEA alſo ſhip there ſeveral cargoes of oil, and becauſe the greater part of theſe manufactories belong to Jews under the protection of FRANCE. If the Turks ſucceed in getting poſſeſſion of all theſe ſoap-houſes, which they frequently attempt, the French merchants will be obliged to relinquiſh the oils of RETIMO, becauſe the Turks will then tax the oils of that province, as they have done at CANDIA, and reſerve to themſelves alone all the profits.

There are twenty ſoap-houſes at CANEA, which employ the oils of the provinces of KISSAMOS, SELINO, and KIDONIA; but theſe oils are in ſuch plenty, that the French houſes eſtabliſhed in that town diſpatch to MARSEILLES, during the year of the gathering and the following, to the value of from one to two millions of our livres.

The wax which is not conſumed in the iſland, is purchaſed by the French merchants, who ſend it to MARSEILLES. This article, which is

are there of greater value than thoſe which are brought, the balance is paid in VENICE ſequins.

The inhabitants of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO bring to CANDIA and CANEA, almoſt all the wood neceſſary for the ſoap-houſes; they procure it either in CARAMANIA, or in GREECE. Every year there arrive ten or twelve boats, each valued at 12 or 1500 piaſtres. They take in return oil and ſoap.

The Cretans themſelves carry on ſome trade: they draw from SALONICA, corn, cotton, tobacco, and iron; from CONSTANTINOPLE, BURSA ſtuffs, ANGORA *châlits*, ſhoes, handkerchiefs for the head-dreſſes of their women, and copper utenſils. At SMYRNA, they take hides, Turkey leather or Morocco, cotton, quilted coverlids, Engliſh ſhaloons, and ſome French goods.

At GAZA, they take aſhes for their ſoap-houſes; at ALEPPO, ſilk ſtuffs: they purchaſe, on all the coaſt of SYRIA, corn and ſilk.

EGYPT ſupplies them with corn, rice, flax, linen-cloths, and aſhes. DERNA and BENGAZI, on the coaſt of AFRICA, ſend butter, known under the name of *mantègue*. TUNIS and TRIPOLI exchange their caps and their corn for ſoap and ſequins.

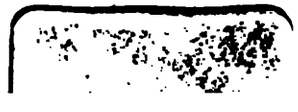
On Mount IDA and in SPHACHIA is found a ſpecies of *tragacantha*, which furniſhes a little gum tragacanth; but this production is not there in ſufficient abundance to be gathered and to enter into trade.

Ladanum is an article of little importance: a very ſmall quantity of it paſſes to SMYRNA and to CONSTANTINOPLE.

The

The wool is ſhort, coarſe, and like that of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. It is all conſumed in the country.

Every one is acquainted with the hone which commerce draws from CRETE and from STANCHIO. The former, not ſo good nor ſo fine as the other, is found to the ſouth-weſt of RETIMO, in the territory of the Sphachiots. It is generally brought to the harbour of CANEA, whence it is ſent to MARSEILLES, and into ſome towns of ITALY.

END OF THE SECOND VOLUME.

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